

THE UNIVERSITY
OF ILLINOIS
LIBRARY

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1892/10



LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



PART OF THE QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY.

Chelsea
Public Libraries.

THIRTEENTH
ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMISSIONERS,
Year ending 31st May, 1900.

"THE TRUE UNIVERSITY OF THESE DAYS IS A COLLECTION OF BOOKS."—*Carlyle*.

LONDON :
PRINTED FOR THE COMMISSIONERS BY G. SHIELD, LANCELOT PLACE, BROMPTON ROAD.

JUNE, 1900.

Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums,
1899=1900.



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KENSAL TOWN LIBRARY.

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Chelsea Public Libraries.

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67

THIRTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1899-1900.

THE Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums present their Thirteenth Report upon the work of the Libraries for the year ending 31st May, 1900.

BORROWERS' TICKETS.

During the year, 2,394 Readers' Tickets were issued in the Central Library, and 2,467 were cancelled; the present number in force being 4,654. The extra tickets issued for Music numbered 123, and 146 were cancelled, leaving 225 in present use. The number of the Students' Tickets issued was 346, and 203 were cancelled; the present number in force being 585.

In the Kensal Town Library, 853 Readers' Tickets were issued, and 907 were cancelled; the present number in force being 1,905. In addition, 57 Students' Tickets were issued, and 49 were cancelled; the number of these special tickets now in use being 113.

The total number of tickets in force in both Libraries at this date is 7,482. In comparison with last year, this shows an increase of 47 in the Central Library, as against a decrease of 179 last year; and a decrease of 41 in the Kensal Town Library against an increase of 41 last year. The roll of borrowers is revised monthly.

BOOKS ISSUED.

The total number of volumes issued during the year from the Libraries was 253,594.

In the Central Library 170,522 volumes were issued—viz., 26,905 in the Reference Department; 122,778 in the Lending Department; and 20,839 in the Boys' Room.

In the Kensal Town Library 83,072 volumes were issued—viz., 4,417 in the Reference Department; 60,597 in the Lending Department; and 18,058 in the Boys' Room.

These statistics, when compared with those of last year, show a slight falling off in the issue of the books from the Central Library. The decrease is 2377 volumes in the Lending Department, and 604 volumes in the Boys' Room. On the other hand, there was an increase of 1918 volumes in the issues of the Reference Department.

The decrease in issues in the Lending Department is found to be in fiction. The reading of works other than fiction continues to increase. The Commissioners hope this is a sign that the educational value of the Libraries is being better understood.

The Reference Reading Room continues to be largely used by students, who bring their own text books and make very little call upon the books contained in the Library, except for occasional reference to dictionaries and similar works.

Early in the year about 50 or 60 handy works in general use were placed on a book-stand in the Reference Library in order that readers might have free access to them. The experiment has been successful, and the Commissioners have now substituted an open book-case containing over 400 volumes of useful works of reference for readers to consult at will. The arrangement is much appreciated and largely used.

The General Reading Room, where the Newspapers, Magazines, and Periodicals are placed, continues to be used by a large number of people. The attendance at particular hours in the evening has been exceptionally good, owing to the present War in South Africa.

The attendance and issue of books in the Boys' Room is well maintained. The decrease was entirely due to the fact that during the painting of the Reference Library in July, the Boys' Room was taken for use by adult readers. As pointed out in previous reports, the attendance in the Boys' Rooms depends greatly upon the weather.

In the Kensal Town Library the statistics also show a decrease in the total issue of books—viz., from the Reference Department of 2040 volumes, and from the Boys' Room of 1675 volumes. There was an increase of 1052 volumes issued from the Lending Department, but this was consequent upon the Library not being closed for stock-taking as in the previous year.

BOOKS ADDED.

The present number of volumes in the Libraries is 39,067. Of these, 30,084 are in the Central Library; 2012 volumes being added during the year. In the Kensal Town Library there are 8983 volumes, 188 having been added during the year. Besides these new additions, 205 volumes worn out in the Central Library, and 32 volumes worn out in the Kensal Town Library, were replaced with new copies.

The steady increase in the number of books in the Central Library will render the provision of extra book-shelving an almost immediate necessity. This could be provided by shelving the Reference Reading Room as originally contemplated. The room now used as a Reference Book Store would then be set free for the increase of books; the present valuable collection in the Reference Library would be brought prominently before the public, which would tend to its greater use; the books would be easy of access instead of being hidden away in the Store, and the room would be appropriately furnished.

THE QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY.

The alterations for adapting a room in the Central Library to make this Gallery, referred to in the last Report as in progress, are now completed, and the collection of Chelsea prints and drawings, together with other objects of local interest and Sir Charles Dilke's collection of Keats' relics, have been arranged in it, and the Gallery was opened to the public on Monday, 4th December, 1899. It is open daily from 3 until 9 p.m., but visitors from a distance may see it at any time upon application

during the ordinary hours of opening the Library. The interest and attendance has been quite up to expectations.

The total sum received by the Commissioners from the subscriptions to the Chelsea Commemoration Fund was £198 10s. 8d., and to the present time the amount expended in pictures for the Gallery out of the Fund is £136 12s. 4d. At the time of opening the Gallery the Commissioners sent a circular to each subscriber to the Fund showing that the wishes of the Fund Committee had been carried out. A list of the subscribers is given on page 22 of this Report. A number of most interesting and valuable pictures and other objects for the Gallery have been received as gifts since the opening, and a list of the Donors will be found on pages 20-21, to whom the Commissioners now publicly accord their thanks. A descriptive catalogue of the exhibits is in preparation.

The present Gallery, being small, is already filled to its utmost capacity, and more room is desirable for the proper exhibition of many of the pictures already in the Gallery, as well as for the Burgess Collection and others for which there is not sufficient space available. As the Commissioners and their successors have the prospect of valuable gifts in the future, the question of the possibility of enlarging the Gallery is receiving careful attention. It is clear that if space is provided to arrange and display the pictures properly, it is an inducement for those who are interested in Chelsea to give to the collection.

GIFTS OF BOOKS.

The Commissioners are pleased to state that they continue to receive many gifts of books for the Libraries. The most important received during the year was that of Mrs. Henrietta P. Yates, of Penshurst, who selected 265 volumes from the Library of her late husband, William Yates, Esq., M.A., Emmanuel College, Cambridge, and of Lincoln's Inn, Barrister-at-Law, and gave them as a memorial of him and of his father, the Rev. Dr. Yates, who was for 36 years Chaplain to the Royal Hospital, Chelsea. These books have been placed in the Reference Department. In

addition, Mrs. Yates has presented an album containing a large and valuable collection of letters and autographs of celebrities of the past century.

Sir Charles Dilke continues his gifts of books—116 volumes having been received from him during the year, besides a selection of Parliamentary papers sent as issued. These papers are placed in the Reference Reading Room for consultation at will, and they contain much valuable material on current public affairs.

Mr. Charles Latter, one of the Commissioners, has given to the Central Library a complete series of the silver coinage of the South African Republic. These have been placed in the Gallery, and, in view of passing events, have proved a source of much interest.

Mr. Henry J. Wright, also a Commissioner, sent 19 bound volumes of "The Builder" to complete the set of this periodical in the Central Library.

The Chelsea Vestry, in response to a request from the Commissioners, sent to the Library a number of books and printed papers of local interest.

A list of other donors who have given books appears on pages 23-26 of this Report.

LOCAL RECORDS.

In December, the Chelsea Vestry gave the Commissioners permission to examine the collection of Local Records and Papers in the Muniment Room at the Town Hall. The Librarian prepared a list, and reported to the Commissioners upon the subject. Apart from those documents of a purely business nature, which might reasonably be expected to be found in the possession of the Vestry, nothing of a distinctly antiquarian or historic character was found, and no papers of a period earlier than the end of the seventeenth century.

THE KEATS' RELICS.

In August a communication was received from Sir Charles Dilke informing the Commissioners that he had bequeathed the

manuscripts, books, and trinkets forming his collection of relics of the poet John Keats, now on loan to the Central Library, to the Borough of Hampstead, which is closely identified with Keats. The collection, however, will remain in Chelsea during Sir Charles Dilke's lifetime.

LONDON GOVERNMENT ACT, 1899.

The Commissioners followed the progress of the London Government Bill through both Houses of Parliament with special interest, and were represented by Counsel at the local inquiries. Every possible step has been taken to safeguard the interests of the Kensal Town Library in its transfer to another authority. It has now been decided by the Commissioners under the Act to transfer that portion of the Kensal Town area containing the Library to the Borough of Paddington. As that Parish has not adopted the Public Libraries Act, and the income from the present Library rate upon the Kensal Town area alone is insufficient to maintain the Library there, the Libraries Commissioners are doing all in their power to secure that it shall be efficiently maintained. In view of its situation in the midst of a population to which it is a great boon, the large extent to which it has been used, the care and means expended upon it, and the excellent work it has accomplished, it would be a great pity if it could not be carried on in its present state of efficiency. So far there would seem to be every prospect of provision being made for its satisfactory maintenance.

THE STAFF.

In issuing this, which is probably their last report as a Statutory Committee, the Commissioners wish to place on permanent record their high appreciation of the work of their Chief Librarian and his Assistants. Their ever-ready help, technical knowledge, and courtesy, have greatly assisted the Commissioners in their endeavours to make the Chelsea Public Libraries second to none in the metropolis.

LIST OF BOOKS ADDED.

The following are among the more important books added to the Libraries during the year :—

Allen's Commercial organic analysis. Ansorge's Under the African sun. Arber's English garner. Ashley's Economic history. Austen's Study of metallurgy. Ball's Light from the East. Bancroft's Native races of the Pacific States of North America. Barclay's Religious societies of the Commonwealth. Bartholomew's Physical atlas. Bates' English pre-Raphaelite painters. Bell's British theatre. Belloc's Danton. Life of Archbishop Benson, by his son. Beresford's The break-up of China. Bertrand's Kingdom of the Barotsi. Biddle's The Madeira Islands. Biddulph's The 19th and their times. Bird's Guide to the Public Records. Blanchan's Birds that hunt and are hunted. Bishop's The Yangtze Valley. Blount and Bloxam's Chemistry for engineers. Bourdeille's Book of the ladies. Bourgeois' The century of Louis XIV. Bradley's Life of Giorgio Guilio Clovio, miniaturist. Brett's Indian tribes of Guiana. Britten's Old clocks and watches. Brothers' Photography. Brown's On the South African frontier. Browne's Taxidermy. Budge's Book of the Dead. Caird's Fundamental ideas of Christianity. Cambridge natural history. Carnegie's Spinfex and sand. Chisholm's Gazetteer of the World. Christian's The Caroline Islands. Climensen's Diary of Mrs. Powys. Clouston's Chippendale period in English furniture. Clowes' History of the Royal Navy. Autobiography of Mrs. Oliphant. Collingridge's Discovery of Australia. Combes' Dr. Syntax's tours. David Cox's Landscape painting. Crawford's Ave Roma immortalis. Crozier's My inner life. Davies' Armorial families. Lady Dilke's French painters of the 18th century. Dodge's Piers Gaveston. Donovan's British birds. Donovan's British insects. Durer Society Portfolio. Fairholt's Costume in England. Favier's Palace de Versailles. Featherman's Social history of the races of mankind. Fischbach's Ornament of textile fabrics. Fisher's Rod and river. Fitchett's How England saved Europe. Fitzgerald's British East Africa.

Fitzpatrick's *The Transvaal from within*. Fletcher's *Picturesque Yorkshire*. Foa's *Big game in Central Africa*. Fortescue's *History of the 17th Lancers*. Fraser's *Diplomatist's wife in Japan*. Gamlin's *Nelson's friendships*. Gardiner's *History of the Commonwealth*. Gardiner's *Oliver Cromwell*. Gasquet's *The eve of the Reformation*. Gould's *History of freemasonry*. Gould's *Deserts of Southern France*. Greg's *Comparative philology*. Gribble's *Early mountaineers*. Gosse's *John Donne*. Gross' *Bibliography of British municipal history*. Habershon's *Records of Old London*. Hanbury and Marshall's *Flora of Kent*. Hiscox' *Mechanical movements*. Hodgkin's *Italy and her invaders*. Hogarth's *Works*; ed. by Nichols (folio). Hollingshead's "*Gaiety*" chronicles. Letters of Benjamin Jowett. Julian's *Dictionary of hymnology*. Jusserand's *Shakespeare in France*. Pennell's *The works of Charles Keene*. Keppel's *Sailors' life under four sovereigns*. Kingsley's *History of French art*. Kingsley's *West African studies*. Lacy's *Pictures of travel*. Lamb's *Infinitesimal calculus*. Leach's *Early Yorkshire schools*. Lecky's *Map of life*. Lee's *Life of Shakespeare* (Illus. ed.) Lippmann's *Wood-engraving in Italy in the 15th century*. Lewis' *Sketches of the Alhambra*. Litchfield's *Pottery and porcelain*. Lomax' *History of the 41st (the Welch) Regiment*. Long's *Medals of the British Navy*. Lucas' *British dragonflies*. Lyell's *Antiquity of man*. Mackay's *History of the English poor law*. Marillier's *Dante Gabriel Rossetti*. McCarthy's *Reminiscences*. Mills' *International geography*. Millais' *A breath from the veldt*. Millis' *Metal-plate work*. Moore's *Gothic architecture*. Musgrave's *Index to obituaries*. Mulhall's *Dictionary of statistics*. *Le Musée de Cluny* (2 vols). Neufeld's *A prisoner of the Khaleefa*. Nevill's *Memoirs of Monsieur D'Artagnan*. Nietzsche's *Works*. Ordericus Vitalis' *Ecclesiastical history of England and Normandy*. Palgrave's *Dictionary of political economy*. Parker and Haswell's *Manual of zoology*. Parry's *Chemistry of essential oils*. Peacock's *English Church furniture, etc., at the Reformation*. Pemberton's *The Kendals*. Perkins' *Italian sculptors*. Perry's *Steam engine*.

Plarr's Men and women of the time. Prisse d'Avennes La decoration Arabe. Pulszky's Ornamente der Hausindustrie Ungarn's. Ragozin's Empire of the Tzars. Ramsay's Foundations of England. Richardson's Famous ladies of the English Court. David Roberts' Sketches in Spain. Roberts' Memorials of Christie's. Russell's That reminds me. Sanderson's British Empire in the 19th century. Scott's Border antiquities. Scott's Abbotsford. Simon's Early sanitary institutions. Skelton's Mary Stuart. Goldwin Smith's The United Kingdom: a political history. Smith's Century cyclopædia of names. Statham's History of Dover. Letters of Robert Louis Stevenson. Strange's Japanese illustration. Life of Charles Sturt. Swayne's Through Somali-land. Taylor's History of the alphabet. Thomson's Rhodesia and its government. Trevelyan's The American Revolution. Triqueti marbles in the Albert Memorial Chapel, Windsor. Tuer's Bartolozzi and his works. Uzanne's Fashion in Paris. Voigt's History of the Republic in South Africa. Vogt's Natural history of animals. Walker's Physical chemistry. Ward's Life of Cardinal Wiseman. Watson's Topographical botany. Webster's Through New Guinea. Sir Algernon West's Recollections. Whitfeld's Plymouth and Devonport. Willoughby's East Africa and its big game. Wilmot's Life of Admiral Lord Lyons. Winston's Ancient glass painting. Wishart's The Marquis of Montrose. Woods' In the valley of the Rhone. Woodward's Ecclesiastical heraldry. Woolwright's History of the 57th Regiment. Yates' History of Bury St. Edmunds.

CENTRAL LIBRARY.

NEWSROOM ATTENDANCE.

WEEK DAYS.				SUNDAYS.		
Month.	Days Open.	Attendance.	Daily Average.	Days Open.	Attendance.	Daily Average.
1899.						
June	24	20,328	847	4	922	230
July	24	19,152	798	5	958	191
August	24	22,408	932	4	794	198
September	24	24,792	1033	4	1404	351
October.....	24	29,208	1217	5	1964	392
November.....	23½	27,353	1164	4	1496	374
December.....	22½	21,847	971	5	1501	300
1900.						
January	24½	28,591	1167	4	1238	309
February	22	22,220	1010	4	1413	353
March	25	23,400	936	4	1362	340
April.....	21½	21,004	977	5	1534	306
May	24½	23,253	949	4	1072	268
TOTAL.....	283½	283,556	1000	52	15,658	301

VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY.

WEEK DAYS.

Month.	Days Open.	Philosophy.	Religion.	Sociology.	Philology.	Science.	Useful Arts.	Fine Arts.	Literature, Poetry, Drama, &c.	History, Biography, Travels.	Miscellaneous, Encyclopædias, Reviews, &c.	Total.	Daily Average.
1899.													
June	24	47	58	90	69	228	279	144	140	410	159	1624	67
July	24	23	63	91	70	132	216	64	94	334	151	1238	51
August ...	24	30	42	56	83	118	142	152	155	529	113	1420	59
September	24	63	52	97	108	134	188	220	119	408	225	1614	67
October ...	24	41	54	77	70	169	279	181	127	434	112	1544	64
November	23½	27	51	168	230	257	338	205	155	794	219	2444	103
December	22½	9	37	87	161	232	288	138	146	440	120	1658	73
1900.													
January ...	24½	18	61	200	218	179	225	141	167	718	205	2132	87
February .	22	20	41	264	194	189	241	164	184	500	245	2042	93
March ...	25	43	56	415	194	258	326	185	160	688	309	2634	105
April	21½	26	68	453	152	227	327	176	169	591	238	2427	112
May	24½	13	178	901	368	391	404	249	369	1116	687	4676	195
TOTAL	283½	360	761	2899	1917	2514	3253	2019	1985	6962	2783	25,453	90

SUNDAYS.

1899.													
June	4	—	4	6	3	1	11	5	9	13	4	56	14
July	5	—	4	7	2	3	8	4	7	28	5	68	13
August ...	4	1	4	3	3	19	6	3	5	40	3	87	21
September	4	1	6	5	12	2	6	4	18	27	3	84	21
October ...	5	1	10	9	10	2	6	12	14	32	4	100	20
November	4	2	7	12	6	9	12	43	10	46	9	156	39
December	5	5	6	6	4	2	9	6	17	68	18	141	28
1900.													
January ...	4	3	8	14	2	13	11	16	5	44	6	122	30
February .	4	2	3	4	9	1	7	6	11	47	19	109	27
March ...	4	2	11	9	14	2	3	6	19	59	19	144	36
April	5	3	13	28	13	13	10	9	37	45	37	208	41
May	4	—	11	10	20	19	19	14	26	43	15	177	44
TOTAL	52	20	87	113	98	86	108	128	178	492	142	1452	28

VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE LENDING LIBRARY.

(The time allowed for reading each Book is fourteen days.)

Month.	Days Open.	Philosophy.	Religion.	Sociology.	Philology.	Science.	Useful Arts.	Fine Arts.	Literature (Poetry and the Drama, Essays, &c.)	History, Biography, Travels.	Juvenile, in all Classes.	Prose Fiction.	Miscellaneous (Magazines in Vols., &c.)	Total.	Daily Average.
1899.															
June...	24	49	116	123	17	166	174	321	338	841	1068	5882	224	9319	388
July ...	24	51	110	99	17	144	149	343	342	807	1145	6013	215	9435	393
Aug. ..	23½	47	95	85	15	107	130	300	299	721	1053	5485	203	8540	363
Sept. ...	24	47	104	117	18	142	128	345	351	774	1181	6328	237	9772	407
Oct. ...	24	55	120	117	26	162	186	405	416	1001	1288	6528	238	10542	439
Nov. ...	23½	54	119	124	28	188	211	419	408	1038	1356	6603	271	10819	460
Dec....	22	59	85	130	14	143	169	368	331	943	1188	5703	257	9390	426
1900.															
Jan. ...	24½	59	115	125	40	174	194	415	412	1063	1490	6395	330	10812	445
Feb....	22	56	118	143	30	164	226	400	422	967	1311	6397	326	10560	480
March	25	73	156	156	32	179	244	506	484	1138	1494	7630	338	12430	497
April..	21	66	117	130	30	145	174	372	368	965	1289	6582	270	10508	500
May...	24½	47	133	127	24	156	196	385	429	996	1286	6610	262	10651	435
TOTAL	282	663	1388	1476	291	1870	2181	4579	4600	11254	15149	76156	3171	122778	435

Present number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5464.

VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE BOYS' ROOM.

Month.	WEEK DAYS.			SUNDAYS.		Total.
	Days Open.		Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	Vols. Issued.	
1899.						
June	13 evenings and 3 days		453	3	132	585
July	2 " " 1 day		60	1	31	91
August	6 " " 21 days		904	4	168	1072
September ..	21 " " 5 "		1410	4	333	1743
October.....	22 " " 4 "		2063	5	543	2606
November...	22 " " 4 "		2713	4	552	3265
December...	6 " " 15 "		1964	5	439	2403
1900.						
January	23 " " 4 "		2703	4	426	3129
February ...	20 " " 4 "		1873	4	432	2305
March	22 " " 5 "		1538	4	385	1923
April	16 " " 7 "		833	5	339	1172
May	22 " " 5 "		380	4	165	545
TOTAL...	195 " " 78 "		16,894	47	3945	20,839

KENSAL TOWN LIBRARY.

NEWSROOM ATTENDANCE.

WEEK DAYS.				SUNDAYS.		
Month.	Days Open.	Attendance.	Daily Average.	Days Open.	Attendance.	Daily Average.
1899.						
June	26	14,985	576	4	1029	257
July	26	15,260	586	5	1251	250
August	27	18,183	673	4	952	238
September	26	20,626	793	4	1238	309
October	26	22,400	861	5	1970	394
November... ..	26	22,620	870	4	1554	388
December.....	25	20,100	804	5	1843	368
1900.						
January.....	27	23,895	885	4	1608	402
February	24	21,300	887	4	1516	379
March	27	22,660	839	4	1522	380
April	24	17,737	739	5	1817	363
May	27	18,180	673	4	1279	319
TOTAL.....	311	237,946	765	52	17,579	338

VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY.
(WEEK DAYS).

Month.	Days Open.	Philosophy.	Religion.	Sociology.	Philology.	Science.	Useful Arts.	Fine Arts.	Literature.	History.	Miscellaneous.	Total.	Daily Average.
1899.													
June	26	5	6	28	5	14	33	16	13	91	49	260	10
July	26	—	7	32	7	10	31	11	13	101	56	268	10
August	27	4	10	23	9	13	39	29	15	81	87	310	11
September.....	26	2	17	15	8	18	69	20	19	93	129	390	15
October	26	2	19	13	8	23	39	30	16	107	119	376	14
November.....	26	2	7	20	14	18	30	23	16	81	119	330	12
December	25	1	7	26	9	22	38	18	30	91	71	313	12
1900.													
January	27	2	12	47	9	27	55	40	18	110	129	449	16
February	24	3	22	25	4	28	45	21	24	88	181	441	18
March	27	4	29	36	2	22	40	23	17	138	186	497	18
April	24	5	13	19	12	1	18	21	21	82	74	266	11
May	27	3	14	21	5	21	35	13	28	55	80	275	10
TOTAL.....	311	33	163	305	92	217	472	265	230	1118	1280	4175	13

SUNDAYS.

1899.													
June	4	—	—	3	—	—	—	—	—	3	1	7	1
July	5	—	—	3	—	—	1	2	2	5	2	15	3
August	4	—	—	—	1	1	2	1	2	4	3	14	3
September....	4	—	1	3	—	4	1	—	—	8	7	24	6
October	5	—	2	2	—	3	4	7	3	9	15	45	9
November.....	4	—	—	3	—	—	1	6	—	3	20	33	8
December	5	—	—	1	—	—	—	1	1	—	8	11	2
1900.													
January	4	1	1	1	1	—	2	2	3	4	5	20	5
February	4	—	—	2	—	—	2	1	—	2	8	15	3
March	4	—	—	1	—	—	1	2	1	2	11	18	4
April	5	—	—	5	1	—	3	1	1	3	2	16	3
May	4	1	1	3	—	2	2	5	1	4	5	24	6
TOTAL.....	52	2	5	27	3	10	19	28	14	47	87	242	5

VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE LENDING LIBRARY.

Month.	Days Open.	Philosophy.	Religion.	Sociology.	Philology.	Science.	Useful Arts.	Fine Arts.	Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays, &c.)	History.	Juvenile.	Fiction.	Miscellaneous, principally Magazines in vols.	Total.	Daily Average.
1899.															
June ...	24	9	33	44	6	82	79	114	60	258	1250	2634	120	4689	195
July ...	24	15	36	40	8	55	70	85	97	228	1150	2660	129	4573	190
August.	23½	11	29	32	3	34	93	87	61	215	1125	2582	115	4387	186
Sept. ...	24	16	22	50	3	46	98	106	68	282	1283	2737	127	4838	201
Oct. ...	24	3	41	55	6	62	119	99	67	327	1495	2907	169	5350	222
Nov. ...	23½	7	30	57	14	53	134	132	88	327	1519	2863	184	5408	230
Dec. ...	22	4	16	51	11	44	89	122	86	320	1347	2634	165	4889	222
1900.															
Jan. ...	24½	7	29	75	10	55	144	162	71	352	1682	2996	204	5787	236
Feb. ...	22	11	30	55	14	86	104	127	89	308	1455	2702	188	5169	234
March..	25	5	45	60	20	95	127	105	90	343	1555	3082	242	5769	230
April ...	21	7	32	64	9	82	101	93	63	275	1316	2658	168	4868	231
May ...	24½	11	26	38	10	67	89	94	60	277	1310	2728	160	4870	198
TOTAL	282	106	369	621	112	761	1247	1326	900	3512	16487	33183	1971	60597	211

Present number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—2,018.

BOYS' ROOM.

WEEK DAYS.			SUNDAYS.		Total.
Month.	Days Open.	Vols. Issued.	Days Open.	Vols. Issued.	
1899.					
June	22 evenings 4 days	396	4	65	461
July	18 " 8 "	480	5	114	594
August	4 " 23 "	865	4	96	961
September ..	21 " 5 "	1613	4	194	1807
October.....	22 " 4 "	2919	5	295	3214
November...	22 " 4 "	2222	4	204	2426
December...	16 " 9 "	1127	5	153	1280
1900.					
January	20 " 7 "	1308	4	117	1425
February ...	20 " 4 "	1260	4	176	1436
March	22 " 5 "	2098	4	165	2263
April	14 " 10 "	1120	5	237	1357
May	22 " 5 "	725	4	109	834
TOTAL...	223 " 88 "	16,133	52	1925	18,058

SUMMARY OF STATISTICS, 1899-1900.

	Reading Rooms Attendance.	Reference Libraries. Vols. issued.	Lending Libraries. Vols. issued.	Boys' Rooms. Vols. issued.
Central	299,214	26,905	122,778	20,839
Kensal Town ...	255,524	4,417	60,597	18,058
TOTAL.....	554,739	31,322	183,375	38,897

Total of Volumes issued, 1899-1900 ... 253,594.

TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARIES
IN PERMANENT BUILDINGS.

						CENTRAL.	KENSAL TOWN.
Jan. 17th to May, 1890 ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	25,540
1890-91 ...	...	...	...	...	...	*45,905	68,839
1891-92 ...	...	...	...	...	...	157,693	76,452
1892-93 ...	...	...	...	...	...	168,623	90,142
1893-94 ...	...	...	...	...	...	179,456	91,322
1894-95 ...	...	...	...	...	...	180,016	91,752
1895-96 ...	...	...	...	...	...	170,834	91,924
1896-97 ...	...	...	...	...	...	171,298	87,408
1897-98 ...	...	...	...	...	...	168,853	87,450
1898-99 ...	...	...	...	...	...	171,585	85,735
1899-1900 ...	...	...	...	...	...	170,522	83,072
TOTAL ...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>1,584,785</u>	<u>879,636</u>

* From 23rd January to May.

GRAND TOTAL 2,464,421

NUMBER OF VOLUMES ADDED TO THE LIBRARIES DURING THE YEAR,
AND HOW ACQUIRED.

							CENTRAL.	KENSAL TOWN.
Number of Volumes, May, 1899	...	...	...	...	...	...	28,113	8808
Purchased ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1,368	162
Presented ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	644	26
							<u>30,125</u>	<u>8996</u>
Less withdrawn (worn out)...	...	...	...	...	...	...	40	13
Number of Volumes, May, 1900	...	...	...	...	...	...	<u>30,085</u>	<u>8983</u>
Volumes worn out and replaced	...	...	...	...	...	...	205	32

CLASSIFICATION OF STOCK.

		Philosophy.	Religion.	Sociology.	Philology.	Science.	Useful Arts.	Fine Arts.	Literature.	History.	Juvenile.	Fiction.	Miscellaneous.	Total.
CENTRAL	{ Reference	123	573	1008	133	753	597	844	944	3117	...	...	2097	10189
	{ Boys' Room }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	455	...	...	455
	{ Lending .	276	1213	999	167	939	673	1001	2002	4636	1680	5076	779	19441
KENSAL TOWN	{ Reference	...	29	199	17	18	86	58	59	212	...	...	232	910
	{ Boys' Room }	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	307	...	...	307
	{ Lending .	63	456	288	58	391	304	296	669	1888	767	2180	406	7766
TOTAL.....		462	2271	2494	375	2101	1660	2199	3674	9853	3209	7256	3514	39068

PICTURES, &c., PRESENTED FOR THE GALLERY.

NAME OF DONOR.	GIFT.
Mr. F. G. Bain (<i>Haymarket</i>).....	Original drawing by Charles Keene (Lady tourist and dog).
Mr. Reginald Blunt (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Photograph by Hollyer of a drawing of Old Battersea Bridge, by A. C. Blunt. Etching of Winchester Palace, Chelsea. Autograph of J. McN. Whistler.
Mr. C. L. Briggs (<i>Fulham</i>)	Chelsea Waterman's badge of about a century ago. Etching of Lindsey Wharf, by W. Greaves.
Mrs. G. P. Boyce (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Letters, dated from Chelsea, of Dante G. Rossetti and Charles Keene, and a letter of Lord Leighton's relative to a Rossetti exhibition.
Miss Butcher (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Engraved portrait of J. M. W. Turner, R.A.
Mr. Alexander Carlyle (<i>Edinburgh</i>).....	Letters, dated from Chelsea, of Thomas Carlyle to his mother, 1834, and of Jane Welsh Carlyle to her brother-in-law, 1852.
Mr. James Cassells (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Engraved portrait of Sir Hans Sloane.
Chelsea Vestry	The horn core of a bison (<i>Bison priscus</i>) from the pleistocene, dug up in Sloane Square in 1889. Facsimiles of the medal presented to H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, on freeing the Chelsea bridges in 1879.
Mrs. Climenson (<i>Shiplake-on-Thames</i>)...	Letter from Dr. Messenger Monsey, Chelsea Hospital, 1768.
Mr. George Dowling (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Water-colour drawings of old houses in Queen's Road West, Chelsea, and of a gateway to the south front of the Royal Hospital.
Messrs. De Morgan and Co. (<i>Fulham</i>)...	Plaque in lustre, subject "Fire," and a slab with a figure in mosaic, as specimens of De Morgan ware executed in the pottery, Cheyne Row.
Mr. C. B. Farmer (<i>South Kensington</i>)...	Water-colour drawing of Chelsea Reach, by J. Richards, R.A., 1796.

NAME OF DONOR.	GIFT.
Messrs. H. and W. Greaves (<i>late of Chelsea</i>)	Double-barrelled gun made at the Stadium, Chelsea, by Baron de Berenger, with his patent safety protector. Stuffed snipe, shot on the meadows beyond Cremorne, Chelsea, about 1852. Spirit-tester which belonged to Mr. Charles Greaves, an excise officer of Chelsea, three generations ago. A letter of Baron de Berenger's, Chelsea, 1836, and various tickets for Cremorne Gardens and of yacht clubs in Chelsea. Copies of "The Times" containing the report of Queen Caroline's trial.
Mr. Leonard Harrison (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Etching of Old Putney Bridge, by J. McN. Whistler (proof). Original drawing by Charles Keene ("The Bacchæ of Euripides.")
Mr. Charles Hutchings (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Medals commemorating the Queen's first visit to the City, 1837, and the great Exhibition of 1851.
Mr. Herbert Jones (<i>Kensington</i>)	Pencil drawing of St. Luke's Church.
Mr. C. Kirkby Mason	Chelsea halfpenny (token), 1795.
Mr. Charles Latter (<i>Chelsea</i>)	Three framed prints (for the Kensal Town Library). A set of the silver coinage of the South African Republic, mounted.
Mr. A. Rischgitz (<i>Bayswater</i>)	Photograph from a picture of Jenny Whim's Bridge, Chelsea.
Mr. Wm. M. Rossetti (<i>Regent's Park</i>)...	Two original drawings in pencil by Dante Gabriel Rossetti, viz., "A woman with musical instruments" and "A Scotchwoman, Aggie." A letter from D. G. Rossetti to his mother, from Chelsea, 1866.
Mr. Hume Swaine	Print of "Box Farm, Chelsea" (proof).

PICTURES ON LOAN.

LENT BY

Miss Kate Cuthbert	"Music—stringed instruments," by the late John S. Cuthbert, of Chelsea. "The Masque of Cupid," by the same.
The Artist	"The House of the Seven Gables," by Nelson Dawson.

QUEEN'S GALLERY FUND.

(*Chelsea Commemoration, 1897.*)

LIST OF SUBSCRIBERS.

Mr. Alfred D. Acland	Miss E. M. Long
Miss B. Amooore	The Misses Long
Mr. J. M. Apthorpe	Mr. C. S. Long
Mr. C. R. Ashbee	Mr. E. R. Maitland
Mr. W. Ayliffe	Mr. Thos. W. Marsh
Mr. F. Bacon	Sister Mary Francis
Miss Baker	Mr. John Middleton
Rev. H. E. J. Bevan	Mr. Wm. Miller
Mrs. Bickerstaff	Mr. John Milne
Dr. A. Hinckes Bird	Mrs. Francis Morse
Rev. Gerald Blunt	Mr. W. J. Mulvey
Mr. Reginald Blunt	Hon. Mrs. Mure
Mr. J. G. Breeze	Miss G. Naylor
Sir C. Gage Brown	Mr. R. J. Neild
Mr. Fredk. Bull	Mr. B. G. Nevinson
Mr. C. J. Burrows	Mrs. Nicholls
Mr. H. R. Callow	Mr. John H. Nix
Mrs. Calverley	Mr. Dermott O'Brien
Mr. Ralph A. Cameron	Mr. E. Annesley Owen
Mr. Cecil M. Chapman	Miss Esther Palliser
Mr. C. E. N. Charrington	Miss Bessie Palmer
Mr. C. J. Corkran	Dr. J. Foster Palmer
Mr. Court	Dr. Louis C. Parkes
Rt. Hon. Leonard Courtney, M.P.	Mr. S. Gambier Parry
Mr. J. Cubitt	Hon. Misses Wilson-Patten
Mr. J. E. Davis	Mrs. Peachey
Rt. Hon. Sir Chas. W. Dilke, Bart., M.P.	Mr. J. F. Penny
Mr. Campbell Dodgson	Mr. N. Spencer Perceval
Miss Mary M. B. Downing	Miss Philips
Mr. J. E. Dowson	Mr. H. a'Court Pigott
Mr. Duke	Mrs. T. B. Puckle
Mr. Hugh E. Egerton	Mr. Henry Randall
A. F.	Mr. Geo. B. Rennie
Rev. J. P. Faunthorpe	Mr. Josiah Richardson
Mr. H. Ford	Lord Justice Sir John Rigby
Mr. Edward Foreman	The Marquis of Ripon, K.G.
Miss Forssteen	Mr. G. Roddis
Mr. W. A. Foster	Messrs. John Searcy & Sons
Miss M. E. Fraser	Mr. G. W. C. Shield
Mr. A. E. Gadd	Miss Ellen Sparks
Hon. Mrs. G. Gifford	Miss Stanton
Mr. B. Golding	Mr. Wm. J. Stephens
Hon. Victoria Grosvenor	Mr. Charles Strachey
Mr. John Hamilton	Lady Strange
Mr. L. F. Harrison	Capt. Swinton
Mr. & Mrs. R. E. Haslam	Messrs. Tagney & Randell
Mr. G. P. Jacomb Hood	Mr. F. Thynne
Mr. and Mrs. H. W. P. Hoskyns	Mr. Charles Wall
Major E. W. Humphry, R.E.	Mr. B. Frank Walters
Capt. A. Jones	Mr. F. S. H. Webber
Mr. Peter Jones	Prof. J. Westlake, Q.C., & Mrs. Westlake
Rev. Canon C. J. Keens	Mr. John J. Wheeler, J.P.
Messrs. Chas. Knowles & Co.	Mr. Wm. Willett
Miss Emily L. Lane	Mr. J. Fischer Williams
Mr. Charles Latter	Justice Sir Alfred Wills
Messrs. Lee & Pembertons	Miss Wilmot

DONATIONS OF BOOKS.

Gifts of books have been received from the following persons and institutions :—

DONOR.	Vols.	Pam- phlts.	DONOR.	Vols.	Pam- phlts.
Accountants and Auditors, Soc. of.....	1		East End Emigration Fund	—	6
Anonymous.....	4	7	Education Department	2	
Baptist Union, The	1		Eighty Club	—	4
Bennett, Mrs. (<i>Kensal Town</i>)	1		Farr, Miss (<i>Chelsea</i>)	16	
Bird, Mr. R. (<i>Queen's Park</i>)	3		Fryer, Dr. A. C. (<i>Author</i>)	1	
Blackwell, Dr. Elizabeth (<i>Author</i>)	1		Furnival, Mr. W. J. (<i>Author</i>)	1	
Blunt, Mr. Reginald (<i>Chelsea</i>)	—	2	Gausson, Mr. A. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	5	
Bonwick, Mr. J. (<i>Author</i>)	4		Grant, Mr. Owen (<i>Chelsea</i>)	9	
Bowles, Mr. Thos. G., M.P. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1		Greaves, Messrs. Hy. and Walter	2	
Brazilian Minister, The.....	2		Greenberg and Co., Messrs.	1	
Brémont, The Comtesse de (<i>Author</i>)	1		Hammersmith Vestry	1	
Browne, Messrs. T. B. and Co.	1		Harvard College, U.S.A....	2	9
British Museum	6		Heath, Admiral Sir L. G. (<i>Author</i>)	1	
Canada, High Commissioner for	1		H. M. Stationery Office ...	5	
Canadian Government, De- partment of Agriculture...	1	3	Hipwell, Mr. Daniel.....	60	
Chatterley, Mrs. H. E. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	38		Isle of Man Board of Advertising.....	—	6
Chelsea (Mass.) Public Library	1	1	Jackson, Mrs. Agnes.....	1	
Chelsea Vestry	14	6	Johnson, Mrs. R. B. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1	
City Guilds Institute.....	1		Johnstone, Mrs. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	3	
Corkran, Mr. C. J. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	2		Judd, Miss A. M. (<i>Author</i>)	2	
Corporation of London.....	2		Kelly, Mr. W. P. (<i>Author</i>)	1	
Courtney, Mrs. L. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	3		Layton, Messrs. C. and E.	1	
Courtney, Rt. Hon. L. H., M.P. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	4		Leigh-Browne Trust, The	1	
Culver, Mrs. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1		London Chamber of Com- merce	—	2
Cowie, Mrs. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	16		London County Council ...	—	6
Cundall, Mr. J. W.	4		London School Board	4	
Cust, Dr. R. N. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	6	7	McKinnell, Miss Eva (<i>Chelsea</i>)	2	
Davies, Rev. R. H. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	4		M'Kinney, Mr. S. B. G. ...	1	
Derry, Mr. E. (<i>Author</i>) ...	1		Manchester Public Libraries	1	
Dilke, Rt. Hon. Sir C. W., Bart., M.P.	116	4	Marshall, Miss (<i>Chelsea</i>) ...	8	
Dressler, Miss Ada (<i>Chelsea</i>)	16				

DONOR.	Vols.	Pam- phlets.	DONOR.	Vols.	Pam- phlets.
Miller, Mr. W. (<i>Chelsea</i>) ...	2		Rosenbaun, Miss (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1	
Mitchell and Co., Messrs.	1		Royal Colonial Institution	1	
Mitton, Miss G. E. (<i>Author</i>)	1		Ruskin Museum (<i>Sheffield</i>)	1	
Morton, Mr. W. H.	—	1	St. Bride Foundation Insti- tute	1	
Moscheles, Mr. F. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	2	7	Samuel, Mr. J. J.	1	
Moscheles, Mrs. F. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1		S.E. and Chatham Railway Co.	1	
New South Wales, Agent- General for	4	3	Stubbs and Co., Messrs. ...	1	
Nisbet and Co., Messrs. ...	1		Tasmania, Agent - General for	—	4
Ontario Government Agency	3		Thomas, Miss R. H. (<i>Author</i>)	2	
Owen, Mr. E. Annesley (<i>Chelsea</i>)	4		Trinity College, London ...	1	
Paget, Mr. Stephen (<i>Author</i>)	1		Turner, Mrs. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1	
Partridge, Mr. S. W. (<i>Author</i>)	3		Walker, Dr. A. de Noé (<i>Chelsea</i>)	5	
Peck, Mr. W. E. (<i>Birming- ham</i>)	1		Warhurst, Mr. B. W. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1	
Peck, Mrs. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	39		Western Australia, Agent- General for	1	2
Philadelphia Free Library Committee	—	1	Wheeler, Mr. J. J. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	1	
Pilbrow, Miss.	1		Williams and Son, Messrs. G. A.	—	34
Polk, Mr. W. M. (<i>Author</i>)	2		Wodehouse, Hon. A., C.B., (<i>Chelsea</i>)	5	
Portsmouth Public Library Committee	1		Worssam, Mr. S. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	6	
Potter, Mr. C. (<i>Chelsea</i>) ...	1		Wright, Mr. H. J. (<i>Chelsea</i>)	19	
Property Gazetteer, The publishers of	1		Yates, Mrs. H. Peel (<i>Penshurst</i>)	265	
Queensland, Agent-General for	1	15			
Rationalist Press Associa- tion	2				

Library Reports and Catalogues from :—

Aberdeen ; Ashton-under-Lyne ; Belfast ; Birmingham ; Bootle ; Bradford ;
 Bristol ; Buxton ; Cambridge ; Cambridge University ; Cardiff ; Carlisle ;
 Cheltenham ; Colchester ; Derby ; Dewsbury ; Doncaster ; Ealing ;
 Glasgow :—Baillie's Institution, Stirling's ; Kettering ; Kingston-upon-
 Hull ; Kingston-upon-Thames ; Leamington ; Leeds ; Leicester ;
 Lincoln ; Liverpool. LONDON :—Battersea, Clerkenwell, Cripplegate
 Foundation, Fulham, Hammersmith, Hampstead, Harlesden,
 Kensington, Kilburn, Marylebone, Penge, St. Bride's Institute,
 St. George Hanover Square, St. Martin-in-the-Fields, Southwark
 (St. Saviour's), Stoke Newington, Streatham, Westminster, Whitechapel.
 Los Angeles, California ; Manchester ; Newark, N.J. ; Newry ;
 Nottingham ; Oxford (Bodleian) ; Penarth ; Philadelphia, U.S.A. ;
 Plymouth ; Poole ; Portsmouth ; Preston ; Reading ; Richmond ;
 St. Louis, U.S.A. ; Salem, U.S.A. ; Sheffield ; Smethwick ; South
 Shields ; Tonbridge ; Tottenham ; West Bromwich ; West Ham ;
 Wigan ; Willesden ; Wolverhampton ; Yarmouth ; York.

CENTRAL LIBRARY.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—A. B. C. Railway Guide, Accountant, All the World, Animal World, Animal's Friend, Animal's Guardian, Anti-Tobacco Journal, Athenæum, Australian Trading World, Banner of Faith, Bicycling News, Book World, Bric-a-Brac, British Architect, British Australasian, Broad Arrow, Brotherhood, Canadian Gazette, Charity Organization Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Child's Guardian, Christian, Christian Globe, Church Family Newspaper, Church Weekly, Citizen, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Competitor, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerk of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, Cyclist, Drapers' Record, Educational Times, Educational Review, Electrical Review, Emigrant, Epicure, Estates Gazette, Farm Field and Fireside, Feathered Wings, Financial Reformer, Fireman, Free Life, Free Russia, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Gardener's Chronicle, Golfing, Health News, Herald of Health, Hospital, Incorporated Accountants Journal, India Rubber Journal, Indicator, Industries and Iron, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Inventor's Review, Irish Times, Jewish Intelligence, Johannesburg Diggers' News, Kensington News, Labour Gazette, Land and Water, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Chronicle, Local Government Journal, London Argus, London Technical Education Gazette, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Mechanical World, Modern Society, Musical Herald, Musical Times, Natal Mercury, Nature Notes, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Personal Rights Journal, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Photographic News, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Positivist Review, Printer's Register, Public Health Journal, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Reynolds' Newspaper, Rural World, Sandy's Railway Guides, Schild's Mother's Help, South Africa, State Correspondent, Stock and Share News, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Timber Trades Journal, Tool and Machinery Register, Trade and Industry, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian, Vegetarian Messenger, Volunteer Record, West Middlesex Advertiser, Working Men's Journal, Zoophilist.

Official time-tables from the following Railway Companies :—District, Great Central, Great Eastern, Great Northern, Great Western, London Brighton and South Coast, London Chatham and Dover, London and North Western, London and South Western, Midland, South Eastern.

KENSAL TOWN.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—All the World, Amateur Photographer, Anti-Slavery Reporter, Aspirant, Athenæum, British Architect, Brotherhood, Catholic Times, Christian Globe, Civilian, Clarion, Cyclist, Free Life, Free Russia, Indicator, Insurance Review, Invention, Justice, Kensington News, Kilburn Post, Labour Co-Partnership, Labour Gazette, Leach's Family Dressmaker, Leach's Family Workbasket, Local Government Journal, London American, London Argus, London Art Fashion Journal, London Crusader, London Technical Education Gazette, London Temperance Times, Madam, Modern Society, Musical Times, New Church Magazine, Notes and Queries, Oddfellow's Magazine, Paddington Gazette, Paddington Herald, Paddington Mercury, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Plumber and Decorator, Public Health Engineer, Queen's Park Advertiser, Railway News, Reynolds' Newspaper, St. Jude's Church Monthly, St. Peter's Mission News, Shop Assistant, State Correspondent, Stock-keeper, Temperance Chronicle, Tool and Machinery Register, Vegetarian Messenger, Words of Life.

Official time-tables from the following Railway Companies :—District, Great Central, Great Eastern, Great Northern, Great Western, London Brighton and South Coast, London Chatham and Dover, London and North Western, London and South Western, Metropolitan, Midland, South Eastern.

PERIODICALS PRESENTED BY DONORS OTHER THAN PROPRIETORS OR PUBLISHERS.

Central.—Mr. Ed. Barber, The Clarion. Dr. Hinckes Bird, British Medical Journal. Mr. Geo. Carter, Economic Review. Mr. E. Chambers, Bible Society's Monthly Reporter, Gleanings for the Young. Chelsea Temperance Society, Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, The English Churchman. Mr. Elfric Kearley, National Cyclists' Union Review. Miss Marshall, Woman's Signal. Mrs. Thomson, The Animal's Friend, The Zoophilist. Miss Thurston, The Animal's Friend (for the Boys' Room). Prof. Westlake, Q.C., Economic Journal. Mr. B. Wheatley, Rechabite Magazine, Juvenile Rechabite.

Kensal Town.—Mr. J. Kerr, The Catholic Times. Society of Amalgamated Railway Servants, The Railway Review.

The Chelsea Vestry, London County Council, and London School Board present copies of their Minutes of Proceedings to both Libraries.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE EXPENDITURE ON THE
CENTRAL AND KENSAL TOWN LIBRARIES
RESPECTIVELY.

	CENTRAL.			KENSAL TOWN.		
	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Building, repairs, and furniture...	465	4	2½	16	14	0
Rates and taxes	23	5	0	4	12	0
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting ...	231	19	10	114	18	9
Insurance	13	18	0	4	3	11
Books, periodicals, &c.	521	1	1½	77	8	4
Bookbinding and repairing ...	68	17	3	23	15	8
Printing catalogue	21	0	0	—		
Salaries of officers and assistants .	632	6	10	288	0	2
Stationery and printing	20	11	2½	6	1	5
Carriage, postages, and travelling	15	4	0	3	7	2½
Uniform clothing	8	0	0	—		
Loans—Principal repaid	370	9	7	163	6	8
Loans—Interest	321	5	9	127	12	8
TOTAL	£2713	2	9½	830	0	9½

PARISH OF

FINANCIAL

The District Auditors' Act, 1879 (42 Vict., c. 6), and

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure by the
for the above-named Parish, for the year

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand at the commencement of the year, as per Financial Statement to 25th day of March, 1899					164	18 11
Amounts received from Rates levied with and as part of the Poor Rates... ..	3304	13	9			
(Mem.—The rate levied for the purposes of the Commissioners during the year amounted to 1d. in the £.)						
Fines and penalties	96	19	11			
Donations (Chelsea Commemoration Fund, 1897)	37	5	0			
Sale of catalogues	22	12	7			
Sale of readers' tickets	20	18	6			
Sale of waste paper, &c.	13	5	1			
Bank interest	9	1	8			
					3504	16 6

Total Receipts and Balances... £3669 15 5

I hereby Certify that I have compared the entries in this Financial Statement with respect to such Statement have been duly complied with.

I hereby further certify that I have ascertained by Audit the correctness of such ended the 25th day of March, 1900, included in such Statement, and allowed by me sevenpence.

As witness my hand this 25th day of April, 1900.

CHELSEA.

STATEMENT, PT. I.

The Public Libraries Act, 1892 (55 and 56 Vict., c. 53).

Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums
ended the 25th day of March, 1900.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs, and Maintenance :—						
Building and furniture repairs ...	481	18	2½			
Rates and taxes ...	27	17	0			
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting ...	346	18	7			
Insurance ...	18	1	11			
				874	15	8½
Books, periodicals, &c. ...	543	14	1½			
Prints and drawings (Chelsea Commemora- tion Fund, 1897) ...	54	15	4			
Bookbinding and repairing ...	92	12	11			
Printing catalogues... ..	21	0	0			
				712	2	4½
Salaries of officers and assistants ...				920	7	0
Establishment charges not before included :—						
Stationery, printing, and advertising...	26	12	7½			
Carriage, postages, and travelling ...	18	11	2½			
Uniform clothing ...	8	0	0			
				53	3	10
In respect of Loans :—						
Principal repaid ...	533	16	3			
Interest ...	448	18	5			
				982	14	8
TOTAL EXPENDITURE ...	3543	3	7			
Balance at the end of the year, viz. :—						
In Treasurer's hands (Ordinary Account)	35	4	7			
Do. (Chelsea Commemoration Fund Account) ...	61	18	4			
In Clerk's hands ...	29	8	11			
Net balance ...				126	11	10
Total Expenditure and Balances...	£3669	15	5			

J. HENRY QUINN, CLERK,

Twenty-fifth day of April, 1900.

with the Vouchers and other Documents relating thereto, and that the Regulations

Statement, and that the amount expended by the Commissioners during the year
at the Audit, is three thousand five hundred and forty-three pounds three shillings and

(Signed) T. BARCLAY COCKERTON, DISTRICT AUDITOR.

PARISH OF CHELSEA.—FINANCIAL STATEMENT (continued).

PART II.—LOAN ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT with reference to LOANS obtained by the COMMISSIONERS for PUBLIC LIBRARIES and MUSEUMS for the above-named Parish. Year ended the 25th day of March, 1900.

No.	Purpose of Loan.	Amount sanctioned to be borrowed.	Date of sanction of Local Government Board.	Period authorized for repayment.	Amount originally borrowed.	Date of original borrowing.	Rate of interest payable on loan outstanding.	Mode of repayment.	Amount of principal owing at the commencement of the year.	Amounts paid this year.		Amount of principal owing at the end of the year.
										Principal.	Interest.	
1	Purchase of site, Kensal Town	£ 2000	7th June, 1888	Yrs. 50	£ 2000	3rd Aug., 1888	Per ann. 3½ %	Annual instalments of £40	£ 1000 0 0	£ 40 0 0	£ s. d. 55 6 0	£ 1560 0 0
2	Library building, Kensal Town	2900	5th March, 1889	30	2900	9th April, 1889	Do.	£26 13 4	1933 6 8	96 13 4	67 13 4	1836 13 4
3	Library fittings, Kensal Town	400	Do.	15	400	Do.	Do.	£26 13 4	133 6 8	26 13 4	4 13 4	106 13 4
4	Purchase of lease, Manresa Road site	700	1st Feb. 1890	50	700	11th Mar., 1890	Do.	£14 0 0 Half-yearly instalments of £290 os. 6d. covering principal and interest.	574 0 0	14 0 0	20 1 10	560 0 0
5	Library building, Manresa Road	10,750	Do.	30	10,700	Do.	Do.	Annual instalments of £75.	8563 2 11	281 9 7	298 11 5	8281 13 4
6	Library fittings, Manresa Road	750	Do.	10	750	Do.	Do.		75 0 0	75 0 0	2 12 6	—
	TOTALS.....	£17,500			£17,450				£ 12,878 16 3	533 16 3	448 18 5	12,345 0 0

Examined by me and found correct.
(Signed) T. BARCLAY COCKERTON, DISTRICT AUDITOR.
25th day of April, 1900.

J. HENRY QUINN, CLERK.
25th day of April, 1900.

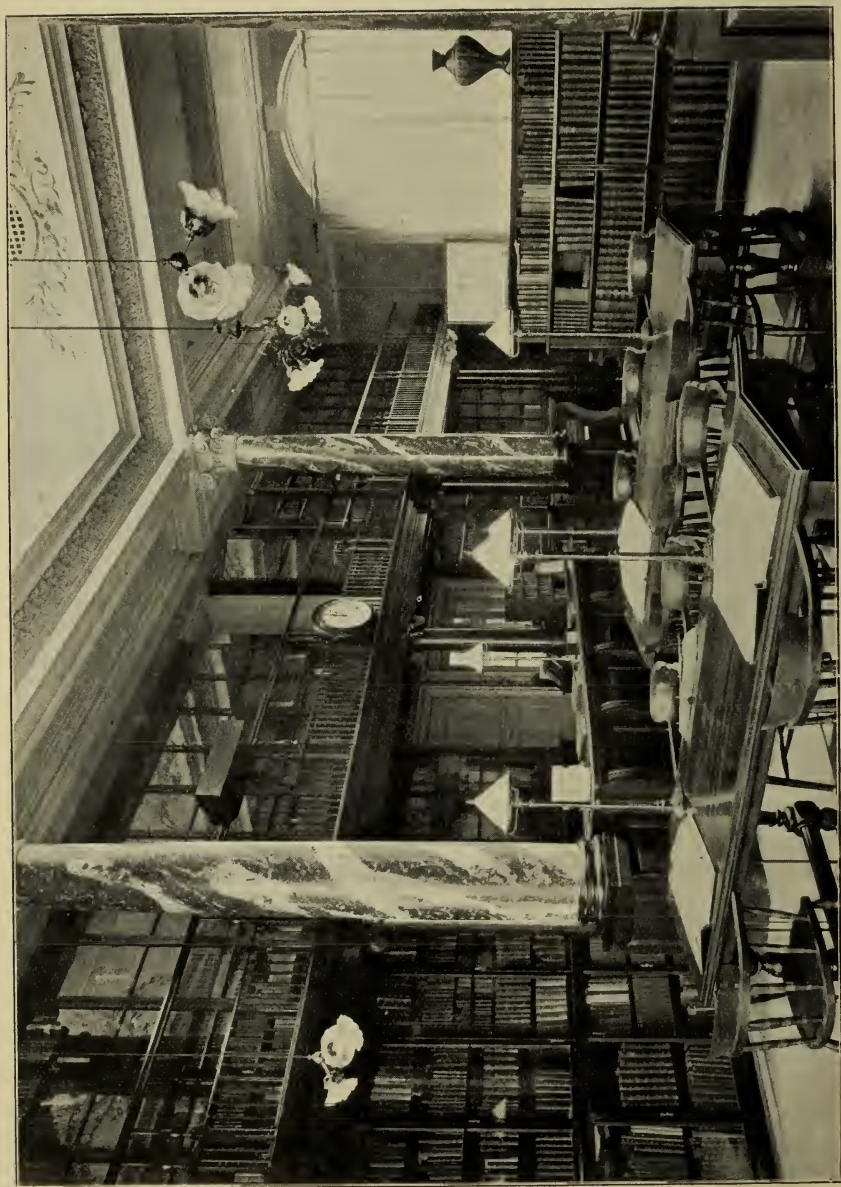
Memoranda.



Population of the Parish of Chelsea (1896)	...	..	96,646.
Area of the Parish	...	...	794 acres.
Rateable value of the Parish	...	...	£839,067.
Public Libraries Acts adopted	...	...	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed			June, 1887.
Librarian appointed	...	...	Nov., 1887.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall	...		7th Nov., 1887.
Temporary Library opened at Kensal Town	...		2nd Jan., 1888.
Libraries opened in permanent buildings :			
Central Library, Manresa Road, S.W.	...		21st Jan., 1891.
Kensal Town Library, Harrow Road, W.	...		16th Jan., 1890.
Total number of volumes in the Libraries	...	...	39,068.
Total issue of books since opening	...	...	2,464,421.

Donations in money may be paid to the Treasurer to the Commissioners, JOSIAH RICHARDSON, Esq., Parr's Bank, Sloane Square, S.W., and gifts of Books, Prints, or Works of Art will be received or sent for by the Librarian, Central Library, Manresa Road, S.W. Bequests to be made to the Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums for the Parish of Chelsea, in the County of London, and their successors.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,

ON THE

WORK OF THE LIBRARIES

FOR THE PERIOD

FROM 1st JUNE, 1900, to 31st MARCH, 1902.

"THE TRUE UNIVERSITY OF THESE DAYS IS A COLLECTION OF BOOKS."—*Carlyle*.

LONDON :

PRINTED BY G. SHIELD, LANCELOT PLACE, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.

JULY, 1902.

**Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums,
Parish of Chelsea, 1900=1.**



Mr. DAVID H. HODGE, Chairman.

MR. CHARLES C. BLORE.

MR. THOMAS J. ROBINSON.

MR. CHARLES LATTEK.

MR. GEORGE WHITE.

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

HON. ARMINE WODEHOUSE,
C.B., M.P.

MR. FOSTER W. PROCTER.

MR. HENRY J. WRIGHT.

**Committee for Public Libraries and Museums,
Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea, 1901=2.**



COUNCILLOR DAVID H. HODGE, Chairman.

COUNCILLOR W. FOUNTAIN WOODS, Mayor.

ALDERMAN CHARLES C. BLORE.

MR. HERBERT W. PAUL.

COUNCILLOR THE HON. GEORGE
EDEN.

COUNCILLOR F. W. PROCTER.

COUNCILLOR H. E. EGERTON, J.P.

ALDERMAN T. J. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR E. J. HORNIMAN,
L.C.C.

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH.

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

MR. GEORGE WHITE.

COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.



Librarian and Clerk to the Committee.

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarians: A. DENTON AND C. O. BALCOMBE.

Chelsea Public Libraries.

Fourteenth and Fifteenth Annual Reports, 1900-1902.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums present their Report upon the work of the Libraries for the period since the last Report, viz.:—from the 1st June, 1900, to the 31st March, 1902.

By an Order in Council the “appointed day” under the London Government Act for the transfer of the duties of the Commissioners for Public Libraries was deferred until the 1st April, 1901, and accordingly the Kensal Town Library remained under the control of the Commissioners until that date, when it was transferred, with its officers and liabilities, to the Borough of Paddington by a Special Scheme known as the “Borough of Paddington (Chelsea Library) Scheme, 1901.” The statistics of the work of that Library to the 31st March, 1901, are therefore included in this Report in order to complete the returns up to the time of the transfer.

The Public Libraries and Museums Committee of the Chelsea Borough Council was constituted with the rest of the Council Committees in November, 1900, and consists of twelve members, nine members of the Council and three non-members. This Committee came into office and took over the duties of the Commissioners for Public Libraries, so far as the Central Library was concerned, on the 1st April, 1901.

The Committee sustained a great loss by the death of the Hon. Armine Wodehouse, C.B., M.P., in May, 1901. He was elected a Library Commissioner in June, 1892, and served continuously from that time till his death. The vacancy thus caused was filled by the election of Mr. Herbert W. Paul.

BOOKS ISSUED.

The figures appended to this Report show that the number of volumes issued from the 1st June, 1900, to the 31st March, 1901, in both Libraries was 225,397, and that those issued in the Central Library alone for the year ending 31st March, 1902, numbered 184,656. The classification is also given and denotes the character of the books taken out.

The work of the Central Library in all departments compares most favourably with that of former years, and there is no falling off in its popularity and usefulness. It will be seen by Table 9, that the number of volumes issued in 1901-2 is the highest yet recorded.

CENTRAL LENDING LIBRARY.

In the Lending Library from June, 1900, to March, 1901, 105,902 volumes were issued, and in the complete year ending 31st March, 1902, 124,855 were issued. These show a daily average of 452 and 446 respectively, the largest number of volumes issued on any one day being 856 on 9th March, 1901, and the smallest number 241 on 27th August, 1901. While this department is used largely for recreational reading, yet a very large and growing proportion of the borrowers use it for solid reading and study, and the majority of the books placed in this department are intended to help towards this end. It may be mentioned that of the 21,749 volumes in the Lending Library only 5,333 are works of fiction, and 1,841 are books for children. This is quite apart from the 12,860 volumes contained in the Reference Library where novels have no place.

Many of the books in the Lending Library are showing the wear and tear of constant use. Since the last Report 1,552 worn out books have been withdrawn; of these, 1,256 were replaced with new copies and the rest cancelled as they are not now in demand, or are out of print and unobtainable. Each of these books has been issued, on an average, 220 times.

In June, 1900, the rules were revised, reducing the amount of fine charged for the non-return of books within the time allowed

from 1d. to $\frac{1}{2}$ d. per day. Books are lent for home reading for fourteen days.

The outbreak of small-pox in London somewhat affected the issue of books from the Lending Library during the six months from October, 1901, to March, 1902. There is, however, no occasion for timidity on the part of the public as every precaution is taken in conjunction with the Public Health Department to insure that Library books shall not be returned from houses where there is any infectious disease, such books being destroyed by the Sanitary Officers, and replaced by the Libraries Committee.

During the period under review 4,885 Readers' Tickets were issued and 4,639 were cancelled, the present number in force being 4,900. The special tickets issued for Music numbered 237 and 249 were cancelled, leaving 213 in present use. The number of Students' Tickets issued was 638 and 574 were cancelled, those now in force numbering 647; works of fiction cannot be borrowed on these tickets. This makes the total number of tickets 5,760 or 296 more than were in use at the date of the last Report. All tickets are issued for two years and have to be renewed at the end of that time.

CENTRAL REFERENCE LIBRARY.

In the Reference Library from June, 1900, to March, 1901, 33,475 volumes were issued, and in the year ending March 31st, 1902, 41,414 volumes. As compared with the year 1899-1900, this shows the comparatively large increase of 48 volumes per day. This is largely due to the improvements that have been effected in this department by placing bookcases round the Reference Reading Room as originally intended and referred to in the last Report. Mr. J. M. Brydon, the Architect of the Library, prepared the designs for this work and the sanction of the Borough Council and the Local Government Board having been obtained to the borrowing of the sum of £1,200 to cover the cost, the tender of Mr. George Pride, of Manor Street, Chelsea, was accepted. The whole work was satisfactorily completed, including additional

lighting, and the room re-opened on 27th November, 1901. The accommodation for books thus obtained will allow for the gradual growth of the Reference Library for some years to come, the comfort and convenience of the readers is considerably increased, and the room more fitly adapted for the purpose for which it was built. The result up to the present has justified the opinion that it would lead to a greater use being made of the books.

It was a matter of great regret to the Committee that their Architect, Mr. J. M. Brydon, did not live to supervise the carrying out of these improvements. He had, however, completed the plans and specification in detail a few days before his death and the Committee were thus enabled to carry out the work in accordance with his designs. In this they were helped by Mr. Leonard Stokes, Architect, who superintended the work as trustee of Mr. Brydon's estate.

The addition to the shelving has enabled the Committee to increase the number of books placed upon open shelves for ready reference, and 880 volumes are now available for consultation at will. This privilege is greatly appreciated by readers. As far as possible a record of the use made of the books on the open shelves is kept and added to the issues of the Reference Library.

Boys' Room.

The number of volumes issued in the Boys' Reading Room from June, 1900, to March, 1901, when it was opened 67 whole days and 233 evenings (6 to 9 p.m.) was 20,515. This includes 44 Sunday evenings when 3,991 volumes were issued. In the year ending 31st March, 1902, 18,387 volumes were issued during 68 whole days and 198 evenings, inclusive of 3,379 on 39 Sunday evenings. The falling-off last year was due to the use of this room as a temporary reference reading room during the time occupied in shelving the Reference Library.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

The attendance in the General Reading Room, where the newspapers, magazines, and periodicals are placed, is well main-

tained. The number of daily visits to this room is at least 1,000 ; careful countings of those entering the room showing that on the 20th February, 1902, 1,168 visits were made, and on the 3rd March, 1902, 1,212 visits. The average attendance on Sundays was 304 in 1900-1, and 252 in 1901-2. This room is also open on bank holidays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. ; the average attendance on these days being 177.

The Committee are at present engaged in experimenting with a view to improving the lighting in the room, and the ventilation is also receiving attention.

VISITS TO THE LIBRARY.

Visits have been paid to the Library to specially inspect some of its contents by the London and Middlesex Archæological Society, the Hampstead Students' Association, a section of the Home Reading Union, and other societies.

KENSAL TOWN LIBRARY.

In the nine months from June, 1900, to March, 1901, 65,505 volumes were issued in this Library. Of these, 3,770 were in the Reference Library ; 49,297 in the Lending Library, and 12,438 in the Boys' Room. The attendance in the General Reading Room was estimated to average 780 per week-day and on Sundays 224. The number of volumes in stock at the date of transfer to Paddington was 9,085. This Library is now known as the Queen's Park Library.

GIFTS TO THE CENTRAL LIBRARY.

From time to time the Committee continue to receive a considerable number of books and other gifts. The most interesting from the local stand-point, is a manuscript prepared by the Rev. Dr. John King, who was Rector of Chelsea from 1694 to 1732. It is entitled "An Account of the Parish and Rectory of Chelsea, in the County of Middlesex, near London, with an exact Terrier and Relation of the Glebe Land, Tithes, and other Dues belonging to the said Rectory," and contains an account of the parish at the end of the 17th century, with plans. This was given

to the Library by the late Rector of Chelsea, the Rev. Gerald Blunt, a few days before his death. A transcript of the manuscript has been made for ordinary use.

The Committee have also received from the family of the late Rector 85 volumes selected from his library, the mallet used by the Countess Cadogan when laying the Memorial Stone of the Library, with an inscription, and a carved oak reading desk. It may be mentioned that Mr. Blunt was one of those who took an active part in securing the adoption of the Public Libraries Acts by Chelsea, and was elected one of the first Commissioners, serving for two years in that capacity.

From the Mayor, Major W. Fountain Woods, a collection of 127 large photographs of Rome, Venice, Florence, and Pompeii, was received.

A selection of 190 volumes from the library of the late J. T. Woods, Esq., of Markham Square, and a water-colour drawing of Markham Square Congregational Church at the time of its building, has been received from Miss Woods.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P., has continued to send gifts of books to the Library as in former years, and 130 volumes have been received from him during the time covered by this Report. Sir Charles Dilke also sends regular supplies of Parliamentary Papers as issued.

Mr. Leonard Harrison presented 245 volumes selected from the library of Sutton Place, Guildford.

Mr. Charles S. Pemberton presented a Jaipur Enamel Vase brought from India.

Mr. Sidney J. Low, of Chelsea, has given 357 miscellaneous volumes; from the Lords Commissioners of H. M. Treasury, 220 volumes of Record Office Publications were received in continuation of those formerly given; Mr. Daniel Hipwell has given 125 volumes, principally books by Chelsea authors; from Mrs. V. Maslin, of Chelsea, 40 volumes were received, which include a set of publications of the Huguenot Society; Mr. S. C. Cockerell, on behalf of Mrs. William Morris, presented three sheets of the



QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY OF CHELSEA PRINTS AND DRAWINGS.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Kelmscott Press Chaucer, which have been framed and are now exhibited in the Reference Library; Mr. C. B. Farmer presented a medal commemorating the ascents of a captive balloon at Chelsea.

The following is a list of those who have given books, pamphlets, &c., and to all these the Committee have expressed their thanks:—

The Army League; Asylum for the Education of Deaf and Dumb Children; Dr. Grenfell Baker; Council of the Baptist Union; Mr. J. Bathurst; Dr. A. H. Bird; Mr. R. Blunt; Mrs. Bramwell Booth; Miss M. A. Brewster; British Museum; Brooklyn Institute, U. S. A.; Messrs. T. B. Browne & Co.; Mrs. W. P. Browne; Mr. Burdett-Coutts; Mr. W. W. Burgess, R.P.E.; Mr. F. J. Burgoyne; Mrs. Mona Caird; Mr. H. R. Callow; Dr. Lewis Campbell; Canadian Department of Agriculture; Mr. George Carter; The late W. R. Chaston; "Chelsea Mail" Editor; Chelsea Vestry; Hon. Joseph H. Choate; Sir J. A. Cockburn; Co-operative Union; Rev. J. F. Cornish; Rt. Rev. Bp. R. Courtenay; Rt. Hon. L. H. Courtney; Messrs. Crane and Crane; Dr. R. N. Cust; Miss A. M. Cust; Miss A. Daniel; Messrs. Dawbarn & Ward; Deal Corporation; Messrs. Dean and Son; Deering Harvester Co., Chicago; Mr. E. Derry; Drinking Fountain Association; Mr. A. C. Drolsum; Mr. W. F. Dunsterville; Hon. G. Eden; Mr. Passmore Edwards; Mr. H. E. Egerton, J.P.; Mr. T. B. Ellenor; Mr. R. Eustace; The Executors of the late E. J. Eyre, Governor of Jamaica; The Fabian Society; Mr. Henry Farrar; Messrs. Gale & Polden; Mr. A. Gaussen; Mr. D. H. Geddie; Geological Survey of Canada; Mr. I. Chackley Gould; Messrs. Gowans & Gray; Mrs. E. A. Gowing; Great Eastern Railway Co.; The Executrix of the late Miss F. Grove; Mr. F. Guard; Hammersmith Borough Council; Mr. J. Hanks; Miss Rose Harrison; Harvard College, U. S. A.; Mr. F. Herrington; Mr. C. Hiatt; H. M. Stationery Office; Mr. R. E. Holding; Mr. R. V. Holton; Messrs. Hopwood & Co.; Mr. F. J. Horniman, M.P.; Isle-of-

Man Board of Advertising ; Mrs. Jagoe ; Mr. A. G. Judd ; Messrs. C. and E. Layton ; London Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews ; London County Council ; London Directory Co. ; London School Board ; London University Correspondence College ; Lord's Day Rest Association ; Messrs. W. Macdonald & Co. ; Miss McKinnel ; Manchester Cotton Association ; Mansion House Council on the Dwellings of the Poor ; The Misses Marshall ; Dr. B. E. Martin ; Messrs. Mather and Crowther ; Miss F. Maud ; Mr. J. Milne ; Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co. ; Publishers of the "Morning Leader" ; Mr. F. Moscheles ; National Anti-Vivisection Society ; National Society for the Prevention of Consumption ; Navy League ; Agent-General for New Brunswick ; Agent-General for New South Wales ; Agent-General for New Zealand ; Messrs. J. Nisbet and Co. ; Miss M. L. Parry ; The Peace Union ; Mrs. Peachey ; Philadelphia Free Library Committee ; Agent-General for Queensland ; Mrs. Charles Read ; Captain Roberts ; Miss I. Roberts ; Mr. W. R. Cadogan Rothery ; Royal Colonial Institute ; Royal Microscopical Society ; Royal National Lifeboat Institution ; Mr. E. T. Sachs ; Mr. Henry Sell ; Mr. H. H. Smith ; Smith Premier Typewriter Co. ; Society of Accountants and Auditors ; Messrs. Sotheran & Co. ; Agent-General for South Australia ; Mr. R. Steel ; Messrs. Stephens & Mackintosh ; Mrs. W. Trafford Taunton ; Mr. L. A. Taylor ; Mr. A. G. Temple, Guildhall Art Gallery ; Mrs. H. Thompson ; Trinity College, London ; United States Bureau of Education ; University Correspondence College ; Victoria, B. C., Bureau of Provincial Information ; Victoria, B. C., King's Printer ; Mr. E. O. Walker ; Mr. H. R. Walter ; Mrs. Wayte ; Mr. J. W. Webb ; Mr. F. J. Welch ; Agent-General for Western Australia ; Westminster Vestry ; Prof. J. Westlake, K.C. ; Messrs. J. J. Wheeler & Son ; Mr. J. H. W. Wheeler ; Mr. A. Williams ; Mr. J. Willing ; Mr. F. I. Wilmot ; Miss Wilson ; Mr. F. I. Winbolt ; Mr. W. H. K. Wright ; Major A. C. Yate. Annual Reports have been received from a number of British and American Public Libraries.

CENTRAL LIBRARY.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—Accountant, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Animals' Guardian, Athenæum, Australian Trading World, Book World, Bric-a-Brac, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British Architect, British Australasian, Broad Arrow, Brotherhood, Busy-Bee, Canadian Gazette, Catholic Fireside, Charity Organization Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Child's Guardian, Christian, Christian Globe, Church Family Newspaper, Church Weekly, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Competitor, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerk of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, Cyclist, Drapers' Record, Educational Times, Educational Review, Electrical Review, Englishwoman's Review, Estates Gazette, Food and Cookery, Free Life, Free Russia, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Gardener's Chronicle, Herald of Health, Hospital, Incorporated Accountants Journal, India Rubber Journal, Indicator, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Invention, Inventor's Review, Irish Times, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Labour Co-Partnership, Labour Gazette, Ladies' League Gazette, Land and Water, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Journal, London Argus, London Crusader, London Technical Education Gazette, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Modern Society, Musicians' Report and Journal, Musical Herald, Musical Times, Natal Mercury, Nature Notes, Navy League Journal, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows Magazine, Orchestral Times, Our Waifs and Strays, Personal Rights Journal, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Photographic News, Picture Post-Card Magazine, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Positivist Review, Printer's Register, Public Health Journal, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Reynolds' Newspaper, Scraps, South Africa, State Correspondent, Stone Trades Journal, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Timber Trades Journal, Tongues of Fire, Tool and Machinery Register, Trade and Industry, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian, Vegetarian Messenger, West Africa, Zoophilist.

Official time-tables from the following Railway Companies :—District, Great Central, Great Eastern, Great Northern, Great Western, London Brighton and South Coast, London and North Western, London and South Western, Midland, South Eastern and Chatham.

PERIODICALS PRESENTED BY DONORS OTHER THAN PROPRIETORS
OR PUBLISHERS.

Dr. Hinckes Bird, British Medical Journal. Mr. E. Chambers, Bible Society's Monthly Reporter, Gleanings for the Young. Chelsea Temperance Society, Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, The English Churchman. Mrs. Thomson, The Animals' Friend, The Zoophilist. Professor Westlake, K.C., Economic Journal. Mr. B. Wheatley, Rechabite Magazine, Juvenile Rechabite.

The Chelsea Borough Council, London County Council, and London School Board present copies of their Minutes of Proceedings.

CENTRAL LIBRARY.

TABLE 1.—CLASSIFICATION OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE
REFERENCE LIBRARY.

WEEK DAYS.

CLASS.	1st June, 1900, to 31st March, 1901. Days open—235½.		1st April, 1901, to 31st March, 1902. Days open—282.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	249	1	268	1
Religion	1092	4	1705	6
Sociology	4299	18	4990	17
Philology	2706	11	5523	19
Science	2252	9	1980	7
Useful Arts	3321	14	3260	11
Fine Arts	2068	8	2681	9
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	4286	18	4099	14
History, Biography, Travels	6638	28	9121	32
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	4200	17	5531	19
TOTAL.....	31,111	132	39,158	138

SUNDAYS.

	Days open—44.		Days open—52.	
Philosophy	42	1	42	1
Religion	155	3	118	2
Sociology	177	4	188	3
Philology	336	7	306	5
Science	139	3	108	2
Useful Arts	230	5	219	4
Fine Arts	169	3	152	2
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	244	5	222	4
History, Biography, Travels	539	12	534	10
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	333	7	367	7
TOTAL.....	2,364	53	2,256	43

TABLE 2.—CLASSIFICATION OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN
THE LENDING LIBRARY.

CLASS.	1st June, 1900, to 30th March, 1901. Days open—234.		1st April, 1901, to 29th March, 1902. Days open—279½.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	566	2	902	3
Religion	1119	4	1343	4
Sociology	1516	6	1975	7
Philology	297	1	360	1
Science	1565	6	1975	7
Useful Arts	1850	7	2359	8
Fine Arts	3851	16	4126	14
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	4489	19	4824	17
History, Biography, Travels	9070	38	10475	37
Books for Children	12374	53	16407	58
Prose Fiction	66610	284	76665	274
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.) ...	2595	11	3444	12
TOTAL.....	105,902	452	124,855	446

TABLE 3.—CLASSIFICATION OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN
ALL DEPARTMENTS.

	1st June, 1900, to 31st March, 1901.	1st April, 1901, to 31st March, 1902.
Philosophy	857	1212
Religion ..	2366	3166
Sociology	5992	7153
Philology	3339	6189
Science	3956	4063
Useful Arts	5401	5838
Fine Arts	6088	6959
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	9019	9145
History, Biography, Travels	16247	20130
Books for Children	12374	16407
Books in Boys' Room.....	20515	18387
Prose Fiction	66610	76665
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Ency- clopædias, &c.)	7128	9342
TOTAL.....	159,892	184,656

TABLE 4.—CLASSIFICATION OF STOCK OF BOOKS.

CLASS.	Vols. in Library. 31st May, 1900.	Vols. in Library. 31st Mar., 1902.	Increase.
Philosophy	399	507	108
Religion	1786	2034	248
Sociology	2007	2418	411
Philology	300	381	81
Science	1692	1922	230
Useful Arts	1270	1501	231
Fine Arts	1845	2236	391
Literature	2946	3616	670
History, Biography, Travels	7753	9631	1878
Books for Children	2135	2319	184
Prose Fiction	5076	5333	257
Miscellaneous, Magazines, &c.	2876	3189	213
TOTAL.....	30,085	35,087	5,002

TABLE 5.—APPORTIONMENT OF STOCK.

	31st May, 1900.	31st Mar., 1902.	Increase.
Lending Department	19,441	21,749	2308
Reference Department	10,189	12,860	2671
Boys' Room	455	478	23
TOTAL.....	30,085	35,087	5,002

KENSAL TOWN LIBRARY.

1st June, 1900, to 31st March, 1901.

TABLE 6.—CLASSIFICATION OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE REFERENCE LIBRARY.

CLASS.	Week Days.	Sundays.
	Days open—258. Total volumes issued.	Days open—44. Total volumes issued.
Philosophy	31	3
Religion	115	2
Sociology	336	10
Philology	69	1
Science	281	7
Useful Arts	440	18
Fine Arts	331	31
Literature	192	24
History	927	34
Miscellaneous	872	46
TOTAL.....	3,594	176
Daily average.....	13	4

TABLE 7.—CLASSIFICATION OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN THE LENDING LIBRARY.

	Days open—234.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	108	—
Religion	379	1
Sociology	527	2
Philology	81	—
Science	776	3
Useful Arts	992	4
Fine Arts	1119	4
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	800	3
History	2618	11
Juvenile.....	12,264	52
Fiction	27,859	119
Miscellaneous, Magazines, &c.	1774	8
TOTAL.....	49,297	210

KENSAL TOWN LIBRARY.

TABLE 8.—CLASSIFICATION OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN
ALL DEPARTMENTS.

Philosophy	142
Religion	496
Sociology	873
Philology	151
Science	1,064
Useful Arts	1,450
Fine Arts	1,481
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	1,016
History, Biography, Travels	3,579
Books for Children	12,264
Books in Boys' Room	12,438
Prose Fiction.....	27,859
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.)	2,692
TOTAL	65,505

TABLE 9.—TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE
OPENING OF THE LIBRARIES IN PERMANENT BUILDINGS.

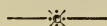
	CENTRAL.	KENSAL TOWN.
Jan. 17th to May, 1890	—	25,540
1890-91	*45,905	68,839
1891-92	157,693	76,452
1892-93	168,623	90,142
1893-94	179,456	91,322
1894-95	180,016	91,752
1895-96	170,834	91,924
1896-97	171,298	87,408
1897-98	168,853	87,450
1898-99	171,585	85,735
1899-1900... ..	170,522	83,072
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	159,892	†65,505
1901-2	184,656	—
TOTAL	1,929,333	945,141

* From 23rd January to May.

† Transferred to Paddington on April 1st, 1901.

GRAND TOTAL 2,874,474

Memoranda.



Population of the former Parish of Chelsea (1901)	...	95,086.
Area of the Parish	... ..	794 acres.
Population of the Borough of Chelsea (1901)	... ..	73,842.
Area of the Borough	... ..	659'6 acres.
Public Libraries Acts adopted	... ..	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed		June, 1887.
Librarian appointed	.. ...	Nov., 1887.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall	... ..	7th Nov., 1887.
Temporary Library opened at Kensal Town	... ..	2nd Jan., 1888
Libraries opened in permanent buildings:		
Central Library, Manresa Road, S.W....	... ..	21st Jan., 1891.
Kensal Town Library, Harrow Road, W.	... ..	16th Jan., 1900
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and		
Drawings opened	... ..	4th Dec., 1899
Commissioners' duties transferred to the Boroughs		
of Chelsea and Paddington	... ..	1st April, 1901.
Kensal Town Library transferred to Paddington	... ..	1st April, 1901.
Total issue of books since opening	... ..	2,874,474

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS,

1900—1902.

STATEMENT SHOWING THE EXPENDITURE ON
THE CENTRAL AND KENSAL TOWN
LIBRARIES RESPECTIVELY,

26TH MARCH, 1900, TO 31ST MARCH, 1901.

	CENTRAL.	KENSAL TOWN.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Building, repairs, and furniture ...	195 18 4	4 5 2½
Rates and taxes	23 5 0	4 12 0
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting ...	261 12 6	119 18 9½
Insurance	13 15 4	2 16 7
Books, periodicals, &c.	659 1 8½	64 0 10
Bookbinding and repairing ..	146 9 10	12 3 1
Salaries of officers and assistants	712 3 4	320 14 6
Stationery and printing	31 10 7½	6 10 6½
Carriage, postages, and travelling	9 9 10½	4 1 10
Uniform clothing	8 8 0	—
Legal expenses	7 11 0	2 10 0
Loans—Principal repaid	305 9 3	163 6 8
Loans—Interest	308 0 1	138 0 6
TOTAL	£2682 14 10½	£843 0 6½

PARISH OF

FINANCIAL

The District Auditors' Act, 1879 (42 Vict. c. 6), and

Statement of Receipts and Expenditure by the
for the above-named Parish, for the period

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance in hand at the commencement of the year, as per Financial Statement to to 25th day of March, 1900					126	11 10
Amounts received from Rates levied with and as part of the Poor Rates... ..	3700	0	0			
(Mem.—The rate levied for the purposes of the Commissioners during the year amounted to 1d. in the £.)						
Fines and penalties	86	9	9½			
Sale of catalogues	24	0	3			
Sale of readers' tickets	22	4	8			
Sale of waste paper, &c.	14	11	1½			
Bank interest	5	19	10			
	<hr/>				3853	5 8

Total Receipts and Balances ... £3979 17 6

I hereby Certify that I have compared the entries in this Financial Statement with respect to such Statement have been duly complied with.

I hereby further certify that I have ascertained by Audit the correctness of the period ended the 31st day of March, 1901, included in such Statement, and pounds fifteen shillings and fivepence.

As witness my hand this 9th day of July, 1901.

CHELSEA.

STATEMENT, Pt. I.

The Public Libraries Act, 1892 (55 and 56 Vict., c. 53).

Commissioners for Public Libraries and Museums
ended the 31st day of March, 1901.

EXPENDITURE.				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs, and Maintenance :—									
Building and furniture repairs	...	...	...	200	3	6½			
Rates and taxes	...	...	...	27	17	0			
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting	...	...	...	381	11	3½			
Insurance	...	...	...	16	11	11			
							626	3	9
Books, periodicals, &c.	...	...	...	723	2	6½			
Bookbinding and repairing	...	...	...	158	12	11			
							881	15	5½
Salaries of officers and assistants	...	...	...				1032	17	10
Establishment charges not before included :—									
Stationery, printing, and advertising	...	...	...	38	1	2			
Carriage, postages, and travelling	...	...	...	13	11	8½			
Uniform clothing	...	...	...	8	8	0			
Legal expenses...	...	...	...	10	1	0			
							70	1	10½
In respect of loans :—									
Principal repaid	...	...	...	468	15	11			
Interest	...	...	...	446	0	7			
							914	16	6
TOTAL EXPENDITURE				...	3525	15	5		
Balance at the end of the year, viz. :									
In Treasurer's hands (Ordinary Account)	...	...	...	383	16	7			
Do. (Chelsea Commemoration Fund Account)	...	...	...	61	18	4			
In Clerk's hands	...	...	...	8	7	2			
Net Balance							454	2	1
Total Expenditure and Balances...					£3979	17	6		

J. HENRY QUINN, CLERK,

Ninth day of July, 1901.

with the Vouchers and other Documents relating thereto, and that the Regulations such Statement, and that the amount expended by the Commissioners during allowed by me at the Audit, is three thousand five hundred and twenty-five

(Signed) T. BARCLAY COCKERTON, DISTRICT AUDITOR.

PARISH OF CHELSEA.—FINANCIAL STATEMENT (continued).

PART II.—LOAN ACCOUNT.

STATEMENT with reference to LOANS obtained by the COMMISSIONERS for PUBLIC LIBRARIES and MUSEUMS for the above-named Parish. Period ended the 31st day of March, 1901.

No.	Purpose of Loan.	Amount sanctioned to be borrowed.	Date of sanction of Local Government Board.	Period authorized for repayment.	Amount originally borrowed.	Date of original borrowing.	Rate of interest payable on loan outstanding.	Mode of repayment.	Amount of principal owing at the commencement of the year.	Amounts paid this year.		Amount of principal owing at the end of the year.
										Principal.	Interest.	
1	Purchase of site, Kensal Town	£ 2000	7th June, 1888	Yrs. 50	£ 2000	3rd Aug., 1888	Per ann. 3½%	Annual instalments of £40	£ 1560 0 0	£ s. d. 40 0 0	£ s. d. 53 18 0	£ s. d. 1520 0 0
2	Library building, Kensal Town	2900	5th March, 1889	30	2900	9th April, 1889	Do.	£96 13 4	1836 13 4	96 13 4	79 10 2	1740 0 0
3	Library fittings, Kensal Town	400	Do.	15	400	Do.	Do.	£26 13 4	106 13 4	26 13 4	4 8 8	80 0 0
4	Purchase of lease, Manresa Road site	700	1st Feb. 1890	50	700	11th Mar., 1890	Do.	£14 0 0 Half-yearly instalments of £290 0s. 6d. covering principal and interest.	560 0 0	14 0 0	19 12 0	546 0 0
5	Library building, Manresa Road	10,750	Do.	30	10,700	Do.	Do.		8281 13 4	291 9 3	288 11 9	7990 4 1
	TOTALS.....	£16,750			£16,700			£	12,345 0 0	468 15 11	446 0 7	11,876 4 1

Examined by me and found correct,
(Signed) T. BARCLAY COCKERTON, DISTRICT AUDITOR.

J. HENRY QUINN, CLERK.
9th day of July, 1901.

STATEMENT AS TO LOANS UNDER THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACTS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1902.

Purpose of Loan.	Amount of loan sanctioned.	Date of Sanction.	Amount originally borrowed.	Name of lender.	Date of original borrowing.	For what period.	Mode of repayment, whether by annuity or otherwise.	Amount of principal owing at the commencement of the year.	Principal repaid during the year.	Amount of interest paid during the year.	Amount of principal owing at the end of the year.	Rate of interest.
Purchase of leasehold interests, Library site	£ 700	1st Feb., 1890	£ 700	London County Council	11th March, 1890	Vrs. 50	Annual instalments of £14	£ s. d. 546 0 0	£ s. d. 14 0 0	£ s. d. 18 19 11	£ s. d. 532 0 0	Per ann. 3½ %
Library building	10,750	Do.	10,700	Do.	Do.	30	Annuity in Half-yearly instalments of £290 os. 6d. covering principal and interest.	7990 4 1	301 15 11	278 5 17688 8 2		Do.
Bookshelving, Reference Library	1,200	25th April, 1901	1,200	Do.	11th Oct., 1901	15	Annual instalments of £80	...	...	10 16 111200 0 0		Do.
TOTALS	£12,650		£12,600					£8536 4 1	315 15 11	308 1 119420 8 2		

METROPOLITAN BOR

FINANCIAL

The District Auditors Act, 1879 (42 Vict., c. 6), and the

Sums received and expended

RECEIPTS OTHER THAN FROM LOANS.				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance brought forward	...									454	2	1
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries Account)	...						2656	0	0			
Donations and subscriptions	...											
Fines and Penalties	...	...					70	2	5			
Other Receipts:—												
Sale of catalogues, tickets,												
&c.	...	...	...	48	11	7						
Bank interest	...	...	...	19	2	10						
										67	14	5
											2793	16 10

TOTAL ... £3,247 18 11

Receipts from and Expenditure out

Receipts from Loans:—

 Loan raised in respect of Bookshelving, Reference

 Library... £1,200 0 0

NOTE.—The above Statement

OUGH OF CHELSEA.

STATEMENT.

London Government Act, 1899 (62 and 63 Vict., c. 14).

under the Public Libraries Acts.

EXPENDITURE OTHER THAN OUT OF LOANS.		£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs, and Maintenance ...					357	11	1
Books, Newspapers, &c.		918	2	10			
Prints and drawings purchased out of Chelsea Commemoration Fund, 1897		5	18	6			
Bookbinding		165	19	6			
					1090	0	10
Salaries of Officers and Assistants ...					792	13	0
Establishment charges, viz :—							
Stationery, printing, postages, &c. ...		41	7	8½			
Rates and taxes		20	5	0			
Insurance		15	6	3			
Uniforms		6	15	0			
					83	13	11½
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans.							
Principal repaid :—							
To the London County Council ...		315	15	11			
Interest (including Income Tax) :—							
To the London County Council ...		308	1	11			
					623	17	10
Other Payments :—							
Legal charges (costs of Loan) ...					12	2	6
Total Expenditure other than out of Loans					2959	19	2½
Balance :—							
Ordinary Account		216	3	7			
Chelsea Commemoration Fund ...		55	19	10			
In Librarian's hands		15	16	3½			
					287	19	8½
Total Expenditure (other than out of Loans)							
and Balance					£3,247	18	11

of Loans under the Public Libraries Acts.

Expenditure out of Loans :—

In respect of Bookshelving, Reference Library ... £1,200 0 0

s subject to Audit.

Donations in money may be paid to the Treasurer to the Committee, A. E. GADD, Esq., London and South-Western Bank, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W., and gifts of Books, Prints, or Works of Art will be received or sent for by the Librarian, Public Library, Manresa Road, S.W. Bequests to be made to the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea for the purposes of the Public Libraries and Museums.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



SIR THOMAS MORE.

BRONZE STATUETTE BY LUDWIG CAUER. PRESENTED BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION,
PER THE LATE ALFRED COCK, Q.C.

METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1903.



LONDON :

PRINTED BY G. SHIELD, LANCELOT PLACE, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.

JUNE, 1903.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums, 1902-3.

COUNCILLOR DAVID H. HODGE, **Chairman.**

COUNCILLOR W. FOUNTAIN WOODS, J.P., **Mayor.**

ALDERMAN CHARLES C. BLORE.

COUNCILLOR THE HON. GEORGE
EDEN.

COUNCILLOR H. E. EGERTON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR E. J. HORNIMAN,
L.C.C.

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

MR. HERBERT W. PAUL.

COUNCILLOR F. W. PROCTER.

ALDERMAN T. J. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH.

MR. GEORGE WHITE.

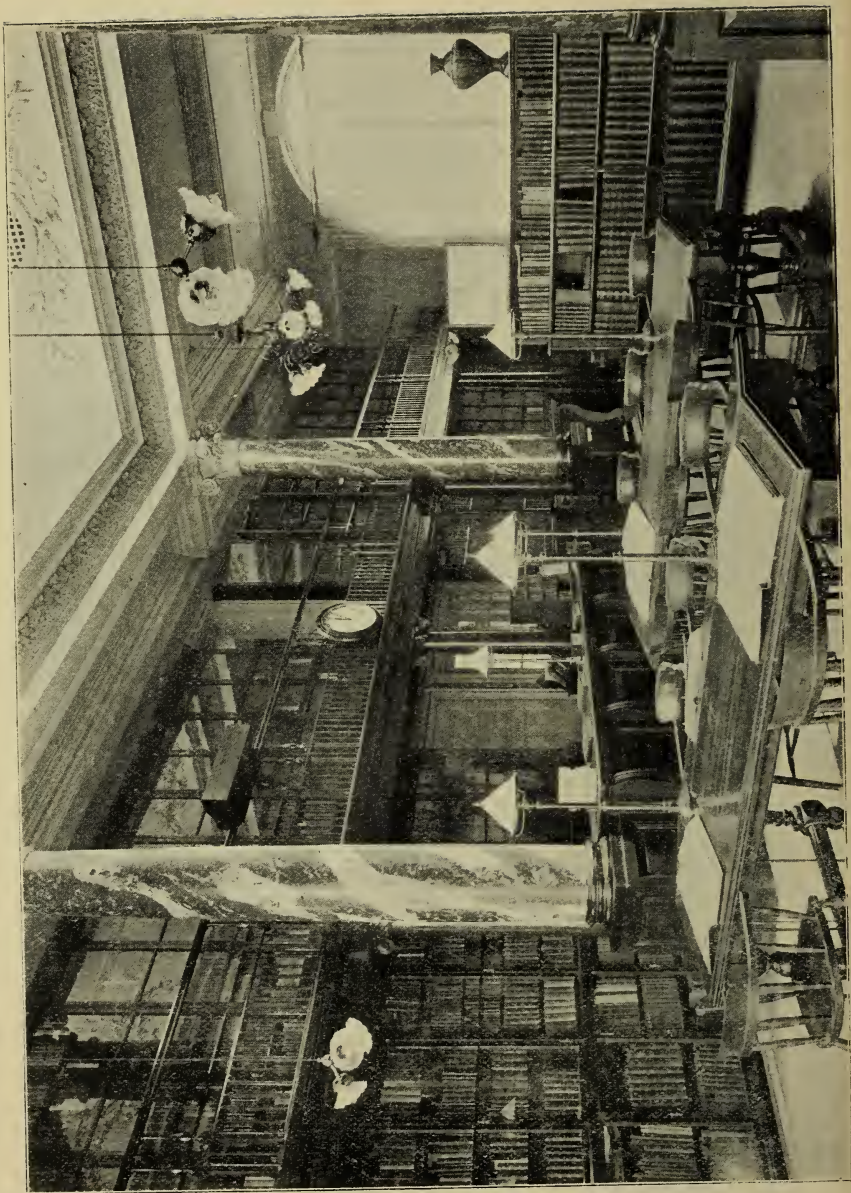
COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.

Librarian and Clerk to the Committee.

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarians : A. DENTON AND C. O. BALCOMBE.

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



IN THE DECEDECE LIBRARY

Chelsea Public Library.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1902-1903.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums, in presenting their report for the year ended 31st March, 1903, have much pleasure in stating that the usefulness of the Library is well maintained, and that the total number of volumes issued is the largest yet recorded since the Library was opened, being 211,611 as against 184,656 issued last year. This increase is entirely to be credited to the Reference Library and therefore represents work in the nature of study or research, fiction being entirely absent from the record.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The total number of volumes consulted in this Department during the year was 67,790 as compared with 41,414 last year, an increase of 26,376 volumes, or 63·6 per cent.

An examination of the character of the issues shows that this great increase has extended over the whole field of literature with the exception of Class B (Religion), in which there is a slight decrease.

This is no doubt due to the improvements which the Committee have introduced in this Department, and has more than justified them in the opinion that by giving greater comfort and facilities for reading a greater use would be made of the books.

The number of books upon open shelves for ready reference has been increased to 1012 volumes. This feature has been further extended by placing the new books added to the Department from time to time upon a separate open case, where they may be inspected before being put in their classes upon the shelves. This has been in operation since October, 1902, and has proved popular.

The number of volumes now in this Department is 14,627, of which 1,767 have been added during the year. The whole stock of the Lending Library, with the exception of fiction, is also available in this Department, making more than 30,000 volumes for reference.

Much use is made of this Department by the Teaching Staff and Students of the South-Western Polytechnic, thus realizing the anticipations of the Libraries Commissioners, who in February, 1888, prepared a Memorial and organized a Deputation to the Charity Commissioners, asking them to make a grant for the erection and endowment of a Polytechnic upon a portion of the Merton Villa site, the whole of which Lord Cadogan generously gave for the purposes of the Library and the Polytechnic. The books consulted by these students have related to architecture, engineering, physics, chemistry, and mathematics. The students of St. Mark's College, of the University Extension classes, and others preparing for examinations have also made considerable use of this Department during the year. These facts lead the Committee to believe that the Library is an important centre of educational work in the Borough and surrounding districts.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

In contrast with the increased use made of the Reference Department, the Committee have to report a falling off in the number of volumes issued from the Lending Department.

Last year 124,855 volumes were issued as against 118,606 this year, a decrease of 6,249.

The circulation in fiction is less by 6,662 volumes. Of the

reading in other classes there is a marked improvement in the classes of Sociology, Science, Technology, Literature (Poetry, the Drama, and Essays), History, and Religion.

There are now 23,078 volumes on the shelves of this Department, of which 1,329 have been added during the year.

The number of volumes withdrawn from circulation as worn out was 594, and 25 were destroyed under an arrangement with the Public Health Committee to prevent their circulation from houses in which infectious diseases have occurred. Of these 408 volumes have been replaced and 211 were written off the Stock Book, as they were out of print and not obtainable, or the Committee deemed it unnecessary to replace them.

During the year 2,488 Readers' Tickets were issued and 2,726 were cancelled upon a thorough revision of the Roll, leaving 4,662 Readers' Tickets now in force. The Music Tickets issued numbered 151, and 151 were cancelled, leaving 213 in present use, the same as last year. The number of Students' Tickets issued was 385, and 353 were cancelled, the number now in use being 693. The total number of tickets in force is 5,568, a decrease of 192 as compared with last year. The number of tickets cancelled includes 140 held provisionally by children attending the Day School of the S.W. Polytechnic who were not resident in Chelsea. The privilege of borrowing was extended to them by request and was granted upon trial from April, 1901, to June, 1902, when it was withdrawn. This withdrawal also accounts to some extent for the decrease in the fiction issues. On page 25 a statement is given showing the occupations of the last 1000 borrowers added to the roll.

During the five years ended 31st December, 1901, the total cost of books lost from both departments was £3 9s. 2d.—viz., 34s. in the Reference Library and 35s. 2d. in the Lending Library, out of a total issue of 873,423 volumes. In view of this very trifling loss the Committee have considered the possibility of abolishing the present arrangement for the Lending Library requiring a householder to become guarantor for a non-ratepayer

and to accept instead a personal guarantee from every resident, whether a householder or not, at the same time covering any loss by insurance. While it is not found possible to make such a change at present, the extra Guarantee Form required to obtain a Student's Ticket has been abolished. The Committee and Officers are anxious to avoid anything that may hinder the full and free use of the Institution, while safeguarding the property and the interests of the public generally.

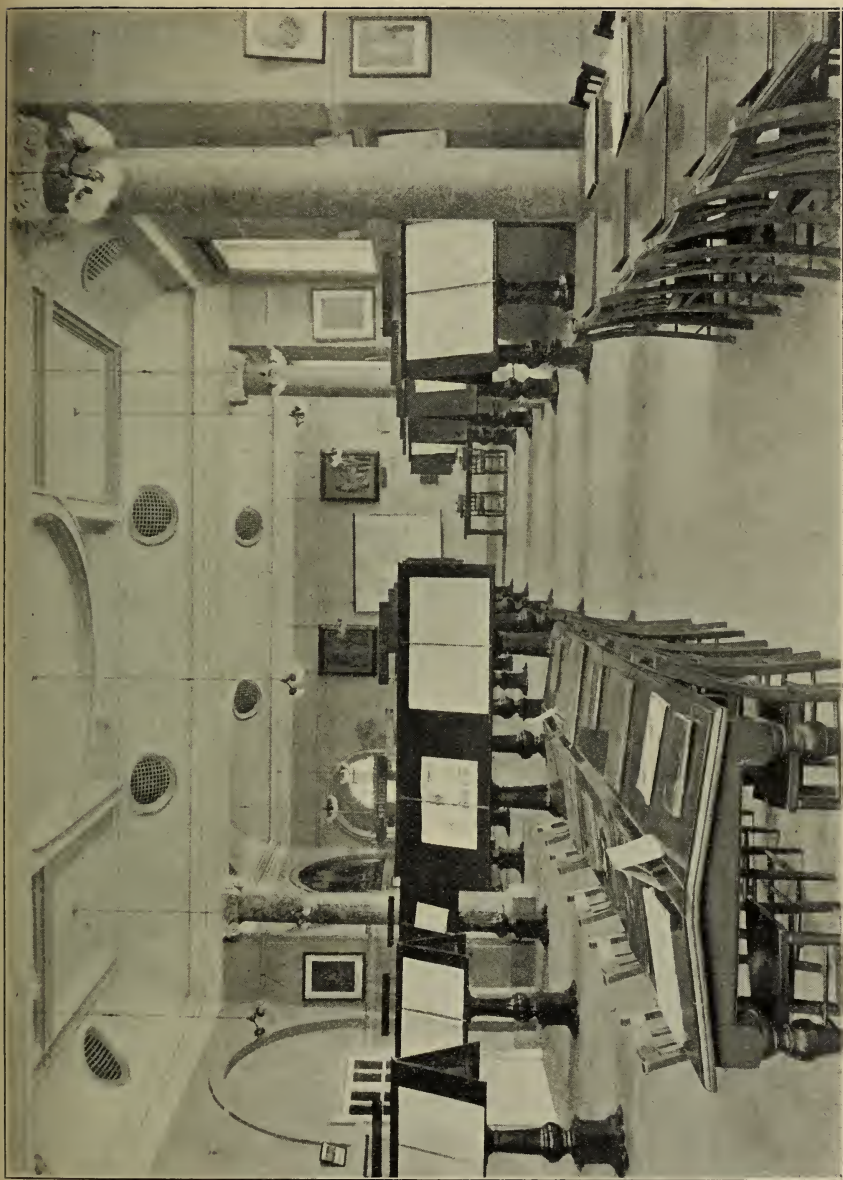
A Classified Catalogue of the Lending Library has been published, amalgamating four annual supplements and containing the books added during the years 1898-1902. It forms a second part of the printed catalogue and is sold to the public at the nominal price of sixpence per copy.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

The popularity of this room, where the newspapers, magazines, and periodicals are placed, continues undiminished. The attendance is ascertained by careful counting and the result given in the table on page 29 shows the daily average throughout the year to be 1,164. The room is open from 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. on weekdays, except on Wednesdays, when it is closed from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. for cleaning. It is open every day in the year, except Christmas Day and Good Friday. The total attendance on Sundays (3 to 9 p.m.) was 17,048, being a daily average of 328. The opening on Bank Holidays is apparently unappreciated, the average number of visits made being only 179, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the hours of opening on these days.

The room had not hitherto been sufficiently ventilated, and, after much consideration and consultation with Mr. Leonard Stokes, the Architect, it was determined to extract the impure air by means of a Blackman Electrical Fan. This has been in use for a month and so far has proved successful in keeping the air in the room fresh and sweet.

With a view to the improvement of the lighting, the Committee have further experimented with arc and Nernst electric lamps,



GENERAL READING ROOM—NEWSPAPER SECTION

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

and these experiments are being continued. The supply of current throughout the building has been changed from a pressure of 100 volts to 200 volts by the Chelsea Electricity Supply Company, the installation being modernized for the purpose at the cost of the Company.

BOYS' READING ROOM.

This room was open on 278 evenings from 5.30 to 9 p.m., Sundays included, and on 80 days from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., the total number of volumes issued being 25,215. This is a larger issue than for several years past, though the attendance fluctuates greatly and is influenced by the weather. As there is no age limit to the use of the Lending Department, many boys avail themselves of the privilege of borrowing books for home reading.

PERMISSION TO REPRODUCE PICTURES.

The Library is particularly rich in prints and drawings of local interest, and permission to reproduce some of them has been granted to Mr. Randall Davies, for his book on Chelsea Old Church; Mr. Wm. Heinemann, the publisher of Garnett and Gosse's "Illustrated Record of English Literature"; and to others for illustrating articles in journals and for lantern slides.

KENSAL TOWN LIBRARY.

On behalf of the Committee the Librarian attended and gave evidence relating to the Kensal Town Library, at the Public Inquiry under the London Government Act, held in the Town Hall and at the Law Courts in May and June, 1902, with a view to the financial adjustments between Chelsea and Paddington on the transfer of Kensal Town to Paddington.

Consequent upon the transfer of this Library to Paddington the Committee lost the services of Mr. Charles Latter, who was a Commissioner from the establishment of the Libraries in 1887. Mr. Latter took a warm interest in the welfare of both Institutions, to which he was a frequent donor. The Committee are pleased

to learn that the Paddington Borough Council has profited by Mr. Latter's knowledge of the working of the Kensal Town Library by appointing him a member of their Library Committee.

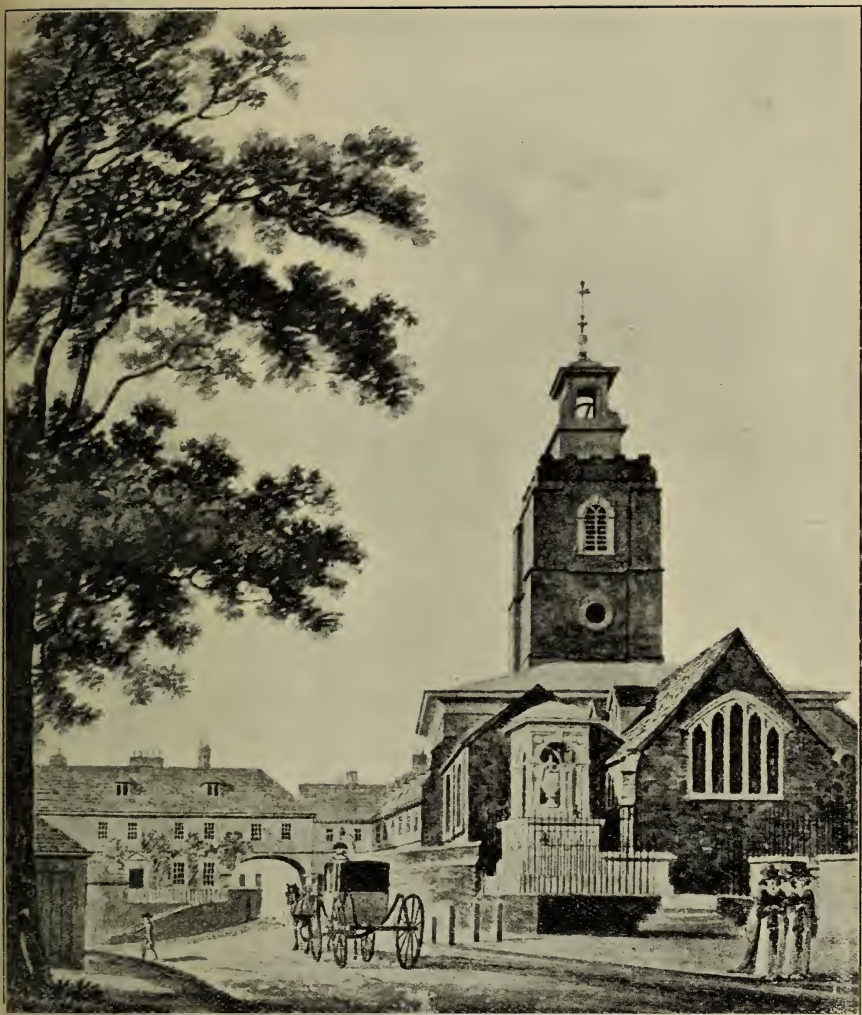
GIFTS.

The Committee continue to receive many gifts to the Library and to the Local Collection. During the year Mrs. Meinertzhagen has presented two of the larger size Coronation Medals, struck at the Royal Mint, one in silver and one in bronze; Mr. Reginald Blunt has given a plaster cast of a medal prepared for the Chelsea Industrial Exhibition of 1887; Mr. J. Roberts Brown has presented a framed portrait of Dante Gabriel Rossetti, bearing an autograph of the poet; and Dr. Dennis Vinrace has given a framed photograph of the Chelsea Dispensary building, Sloane Square, pulled down in March, 1902.

Sir Charles W. Dilke continues to show his interest in the Library by gifts of recent books, 77 volumes being received from him during the year, besides supplies of parliamentary papers. The Mayor (Major W. Fountain Woods) presented 47 large photographs of Rome, in continuation of the series he previously gave, making 174 in all. Mr. George Y. Wardle presented, per Mrs. Wickham Flower, a collection of 108 photographs published by the Society for Photographing Relics of Old London.

The following is a list of others who have given books, pamphlets, &c., and to all these the Committee have expressed their thanks:—

Captain W. A. Adams; "E. P. B.," Mr. B. T. Batsford; Miss L. Bellevue; Messrs. J. W. Benson, Ltd.; Mr. Reginald Blunt; Mr. J. H. Brass; British Museum; Brooklyn Institute, U.S.A.; Mr. Sydney Brooks; Mrs. M. Buckea; Mr. F. J. Burgoyne; Canadian Department of Agriculture; Mr. Geo. Carter; Chelsea Borough Council; Chelsea Committee of the Charity Organisation Society; City and Guilds of London Institute; Messrs. W. P. Clowes & Sons; Co-operative Union; Dr. R. N. Cust; Miss Dressler; Messrs. Dunlop & Co.; Mr. H. E. Egerton, J.P.;



CHELSEA OLD CHURCH, 1788.

FROM THE WATER-COLOUR DRAWING BY THOMAS MALTON IN THE LIBRARY (NO. 3 QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY).

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

Emigrants' Information Office ; Garden City Association ; Geological Survey of Canada ; Mr. W. E. Gordon ; Great Eastern Railway Company ; Harvard College, U.S.A. ; Mr. Charles Hiatt ; Mr. D. Hipwell ; H. M. Patent Office ; H.M. Stationery Office ; Mrs. Hoare ; Mr. E. J. Horniman, L.C.C. ; Mr A. J. Hughes ; Secretary of State for India ; Isle of Man Board of Advertising ; Mr. A. G. Judd ; Mr. Wm. P. Kelly ; Kendal Public Library Committee ; Messrs. C. & E. Layton ; Mr. John Leighton ; Mr. W. E. Llewellyn ; London County Council ; London Directory Company ; London School Board ; London Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews ; Lord's Day Observance Society ; Lady Lyell ; Miss McKinnell ; Mansion House Committee for the King's Dinner to the Poor ; Margate Chamber of Commerce ; Messrs. Marion & Co. ; Messrs. Mather & Crowther, Ltd. ; Mr. Cranstoun Metcalfe ; Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co. ; Mr. W. E. Montgomery, LL.D. ; Mr. E. R. Moon, K.C. ; Mr. Lewis Moon ; Mr. J. S. C. Morris ; Miss H. L. Mowels ; National Lifeboat Association ; National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children ; Northern Heights Footpath Association ; Miss O'Callaghan ; Dr. Louis C. Parkes ; Messrs. J. & J. Paton ; Agent-General for Queensland ; Mrs. Roberts ; Royal Colonial Institute ; Russian Government ; Rev. T. W. Sharpe, C.B. ; Mr. Thos. W. Shore ; Miss Emily Smith ; Society of Accountants and Auditors ; South-Eastern and Chatham Railway Company ; Messrs. Spottiswoode & Co. ; Stubbs' Publishing Company, Ltd. ; Messrs. Thom & Co. ; Agent-General for Tasmania ; Mr. E. W. Trafford-Taunton ; Messrs. W. P. Thompson & Co. ; Trinity College, London ; United States Bureau of Education ; Messrs. Veale, Chifferiel & Co. ; Countess Villamarina ; Lady Ward ; Messrs. Watts & Co. ; Miss L. Wilczynska ; Major W. Fountain Woods, Mayor of Chelsea ; Mr. Percy Young. Annual reports have been received from a number of British and American Public Libraries.

On pages 22-23 is a list of periodicals presented for the Reading Room.

DISTRICT AUDITOR'S REPORT.

In January the Borough Council referred the report of the District Auditor upon the Accounts for the year ending 31st March, 1902, to this Committee for consideration and report. The following are the paragraphs of the report which concern this Committee :—

“Committees Accounts (Adoptive Acts.)

“ I have carefully considered the objections which have been raised at Audit
“ to the delegation of spending powers to Committees, and in particular to the
“ handing over of gross sums to be expended upon the purposes of the Libraries
“ and Baths and Washhouses Acts.

“ I have decided that in view of section 8, subsection (2) of the 1899 Act,
“ there is no reason for me to take exception to the handing over of these
“ gross sums.

“ I would point out, however, that it is desirable that the minutes of the
“ Council should be quite clear and distinct upon the subject, and that they
“ should in each case define the scope of the delegation of spending powers.

“ The Library and Baths receipts are at present being paid over, not to the
“ Treasurer of the Council, but to the Treasurers of the respective Committees.
“ The provisions contained in section 9 and in section 8, subsection (3) of the
“ 1899 Act, appear to me to render it necessary that all these receipts should
“ be paid over in the first instance to the Treasurer of the Council. It is
“ clearly intended by the Act to prescribe that the whole income of the Council
“ should come within the control and regulation of the Finance Committee.”

The Committee reported to the Council as follows in February, and the Council approved this report and ordered it to be entered upon the minutes of the Council :—

DISTRICT AUDITOR'S REPORT.

In accordance with the request of the Borough Council, the Public Libraries Committee have considered the report of the District Auditor upon the Council's accounts for the year ending March 31st, 1902.

Under the fourth paragraph relating to “Committee's Accounts (Adoptive Acts)” the Committee would point out that they have been most careful to exercise only those powers allowed them by Statute and the Council, and they were able to satisfy the Auditor, notwithstanding objections raised at the Audit, that this was so. In the case of this Committee's expenditure the resolutions are, in the words of the Auditor, “clear and distinct.” The following are the clauses of the London Government Act and the Resolutions of the Council under which the Committee have been acting :—

London Government Act.

8.—(1). Any Committee appointed by a Borough Council for the purpose of the Public Libraries Acts, 1892 and 1893, may consist partly of persons not members of the Council.

(2). Every Committee shall report their proceedings to the Council, but, to the extent to which the Council so direct, the acts and proceedings of the Committee shall not require the approval of the Council. Provided that a Committee shall not raise money by loan or by rate, or *spend any money beyond the sum allowed by the Council.*

*Bye-Laws of the Borough Council, approved, adopted, and confirmed,
1st and 15th May, 1901:—*

Duties of the Public Libraries and Museums Committee.

131.—(a). To carry the Public Libraries Act, 1892, and the Acts amending the same into execution in the Borough of Chelsea.

(g). To prepare once a year a report, and also a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure for the financial year ensuing, and to submit the said statement to the Finance Committee for the sanction of the Council, the amount so sanctioned *to be paid to the account of and to be disbursed by the Library Committee* provided that the amount raised by rate shall not exceed the limit of one penny in the pound as fixed by statute.

Proceedings of the Borough Council, 19th June, 1901 (pp. 435 and 440.)

The Finance Committee submitted their acts and proceedings:—

4. *Reporting* that they have considered the following recommendation of the Public Libraries and Museums Committee:—

That the Borough Council give instructions that the balance now in the hands of the present Treasurer of the Library be placed at the disposal of the Committee, together with all sums received from time to time in respect of the Library Rate.

Recommending that the Borough Council do give instructions that the book balances and other sums now in the hands of the present Treasurer of the Library, forming part of the moneys received in respect of previous Library Rates, be placed to the credit of the Library Committee, together with all sums received from time to time in respect of the rate at 1d. in the £, levied with the General Rate for the expenses of the Public Library.

It was moved by Mr. Alderman Hilton, seconded, and

RESOLVED—That the recommendations in paragraphs Nos. 4 and 5 of the Committee's report be approved and adopted.

Every payment made to the Committee from time to time under the foregoing authorities has been, in accordance with the requirements of Sec. 9 of the London Government Act, upon the recommendation of the Finance Committee and endorsed by the Borough Council, either by a specific resolution transferring a sum to the credit of the Library Committee or by a general resolution ordering cheques to be drawn, amongst which was the sum to be transferred to the Library account, and this has been in addition to the annual estimate brought up by the Finance Committee and adopted by the Council.

The Committee also desire to point out that they have month by month, *from the beginning*, furnished the Town Clerk with a detailed agenda of the business transacted at their meetings, the first of which he attended. This agenda always includes a list of accounts to be paid, and a monthly financial statement, similar to the following, which is that for the present month:—

Financial Statement.

	£	s.	d.
Balance as per Statement of 29th December ...	1274	1	4
Receipts :—	£	s.	d.
Fines, &c.	10	4	8
Bank interest	4	2	7
		14	7 3
		1288	8 7
Expenditure : Accounts passed 29th December ...	286	19	7
Balance	£1001	9	0
<i>Current Liabilities.</i>			
Accounts now submitted	299	5	3
Income tax	32	5	7
	£331	10	10

There is no reason why this agenda should not be posted on the board in the Town Clerk's Office with the agendas of other Committees.

The Committee further desire to point out that they have not attempted to appoint any Treasurer, but that the Library account was transferred to the Borough Treasurer as such, and they regret that the Auditor appears to have been misinformed to the contrary.

Respecting the fifth paragraph on "Accounts Generally," the Committee furnished every member of the Council with a copy of the Statement of Receipts and Expenditure for the year ended 31st March, 1902 (in the form required by the Local Government Board), and this was received and adopted by the Council at its meeting on the 23rd July last, five months before the audit took place.

It may be necessary to remind the Council that under the provisions of the Public Libraries Acts, the accounts of the Library have been subject to this same District Audit since the adoption of the Acts in 1887, and in no single case has there been any mention of surcharge. The District Auditors have always been complimentary upon the manner in which the accounts have been kept, and they are still kept in the form that has hitherto had their approval. In any case it is required under Section 20 of the Public Libraries Act, 1892, that "separate accounts shall be kept of the receipts and expenditure under this Act of every library authority and their officers."

The position of this Committee is exceptional, as under the section already quoted, there are gentlemen elected upon it who are not members of the Borough Council, and its income and consequent expenditure (as in the case of no other Committee), is strictly limited by statute. The Council may delegate to the Committee, under any condition it pleases, any of its powers as a Library Authority, except raising a rate or borrowing money. The Council have recognised this by exercising the powers they have of delegation both under the London Government Act and the Public Libraries Acts, and the Auditor in his report states that there is no reason for him to take exception to the action of the Council in the exercise of these powers.

BYE-LAWS OF THE BOROUGH COUNCIL RELATING TO THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

The following are the "Duties of the Public Libraries and Museums Committee" as set forth in the Bye-laws of the Borough Council adopted in May, 1901, under which the Committee act : —

131.—(a) To carry the Public Libraries Act, 1892, and the Acts amending the same, into execution in the Borough of Chelsea.

(b) To have the general management, regulation, and control of every library, museum, and art gallery established in the Borough of Chelsea under the Public Libraries Acts.

(c) To purchase or accept on loan, books, manuscripts, newspapers, maps, and specimens of art and science, and cause the same to be bound and repaired when necessary.

(d) To appoint salaried officers and servants and dismiss them, and make regulations for the safety and use of the libraries and museums under the control of the Council, and for the admission of the public thereto.

(e) To keep in repair, insure, and otherwise protect the Library buildings, to purchase and provide the necessary fuel, lighting, and water, &c., and generally to do all that may be necessary for the proper care and efficient maintenance of the institutions established under the Public Libraries Acts.

(f) To keep separate accounts of the receipts and expenditure as required by sec. 20 (1) of the Public Libraries Act, 1892.

(g) To prepare once a year a report, and also a statement of estimated receipts and expenditure for the financial year ensuing, and to submit the said statement to the Finance Committee for the sanction of the Council, the amount so sanctioned to be paid to the account of and to be disbursed by the Library Committee, provided that the amount raised by rate shall not exceed the limit of one penny in the pound as fixed by statute.

(h) To supervise the duties of the Borough Librarian, who shall act as Clerk to the Committee, summon meetings, prepare agenda of business, keep minutes of proceedings and conduct correspondence in connection therewith, examine and certify library accounts for payment, and generally perform such duties as the Committee may order.

(i) To consider from time to time matters referred by the Council.

(j) To report to the Council, when necessary, upon all matters in connection with the duties of the Committee.

NEWSPAPERS, &c., PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—Accountant, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Animals' Guardian, Athenæum, Bric-a-Brac, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British Architect, British Australasian, Broad Arrow, Brotherhood, Busy-Bee, Canadian Gazette, Catholic Fireside, Charity Organization Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Child's Guardian, Christian, Christian Globe, Church Family Newspaper, Church Weekly, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerk of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, County Gentleman, Cyclist, Drapers' Record, Educational Times, Educational Review, Electrical Review, Engineer's Gazette, Englishwoman's Review, Estates Gazette, Ethics, Food and Cookery, Free Life, Free Russia, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Herald of Health, Hospital, Incorporated Accountants Journal, India Rubber Journal, Indicator, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Inventor's Review, Irish Times, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Labour Co-Partnership, Labour Gazette, Ladies' League Gazette, Land and Water, Liberty Review, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Journal, London Argus, London Crusader, London Technical Education Gazette, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Mining Market Record, Modern Society, Musicians' Report and Journal, Musical Herald, Musical Times, Natal Mercury, Nature Notes, Navy League Journal, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Orchestral Times, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Patents, Personal Rights Journal, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Picture Post-Card Magazine, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Printer's Register, Public Health Journal, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, Scraps, Smithfield Illustrated Monthly, South Africa, State Correspondent, Stone Trades Journal, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Timber Trades Journal, Tongues of Fire, Tool and Machinery Register, Trade and Industry, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian, Vegetarian Messenger, West Africa, Zoophilist.

Official time-tables from the following Railway Companies :—District, Great Central, Great Eastern, Great Northern, Great Western, London Brighton and South Coast, London and North Western, London and South Western, Midland, South Eastern and Chatham.

PERIODICALS PRESENTED BY DONORS OTHER THAN PROPRIETORS
OR PUBLISHERS.

Dr. A. Hinckes Bird, British Medical Journal. Mr. George Carter, Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. E. Chambers, Bible Society's Monthly Reporter, Gleanings for the Young. Chelsea Temperance Society, Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, The English Churchman. Professor Westlake, K.C., Economic Journal.

The Chelsea Borough Council, Chelsea Board of Guardians, London County Council, and London School Board send copies of their Minutes of Proceedings as issued.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—282½.		SUNDAYS Days open—	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	428	2	65	1
Religion	1560	5	193	3
Sociology	7634	27	494	9
Language	7215	26	907	18
Science	3013	10	378	7
Useful Arts	4759	17	432	8
Fine Arts	4825	18	467	9
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	7307	26	551	11
History, Biography, Travels	16154	56	1155	23
Miscellaneous (Encyclpædias, &c.)..	9355	33	898	17
TOTAL.....	62,250	220	5540	106

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—280.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	847	3
Religion ..	1439	5
Sociology	2039	7
Language	346	1
Science	1945	7
Useful Arts	2198	8
Fine Arts	4315	15
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5022	19
History, Biography, Travels	10962	39
Books for Children	15100	54
Prose Fiction	71310	254
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.) ...	3083	11
TOTAL.....	118,606	423

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5568.

TABLE 3, SHOWING THE OCCUPATIONS OF THE LAST
THOUSAND BORROWERS ADDED TO THE ROLL
OF THE LENDING LIBRARY :—

Accountants	3	Lead glazier	1
Actors	3	Lighterman	1
Architects and surveyors ..	5	Lithographer	1
Art dealer	1	Lodging house keepers ...	3
Artists (painters, sculptors, and designers)	43	Managers	5
Art students	11	Medical students	3
Auctioneer	1	Merchants	3
Baker	1	Messengers, caretakers, and porters	9
Barrister	1	Meter tester	1
Bookbinder	1	Musicians	9
Bootmakers	3	Nurses	14
Brass finishers	3	Organ builder	1
Bricklayer	1	Packer	1
Builders	2	Painters and decorators ...	8
Butchers	3	Pavior	1
Cab drivers	2	Photographer	1
Carmen	3	Physicians and surgeons ...	7
Cabinet makers & upholsterers	4	Pianoforte maker	1
Carpenters and joiners ...	10	Plasterers	3
Chemists	7	Plumbers	5
Chimney sweep	1	Police constables	3
Church worker	1	Postmen	2
Civil service	15	Printers	2
Clergymen	2	Publicans	2
Clerks, book-keepers, and cashiers	92	Relief stamper	1
Coach builders	3	School boys	36
Dentists	2	School girls	24
Domestic servants (female) ...	21	Secretaries	7
„ „ (male)	12	Shop assistants	12
Drapers	9	Solicitor	1
Dressmakers and milliners ...	43	Stationers and newsagents ...	5
Dyer	1	Stenographers	2
Electricians	7	Stockbroker	1
Engineers	9	Stone masons	2
Engraver	1	Students (other than children)	50
Estate agent	1	Surgical bandage maker ...	1
Florist	1	Tailors	4
Furniture dealers	5	Teachers	46
Gardener	1	Telephonist	1
Greengrocer	1	Veterinary surgeon	1
Grinder	1	Warehousemen	2
Grocers	4	Watchmakers	2
Hairdressers	5	Wine merchant	1
Hosiers	2	Occupation not given, females (mostly women at home)	326
Hotel superintendent	1	Ditto males	32
Journalists	4		
Labourers	2		
Lamp shade maker	1		
			1,000

BOYS' ROOM.

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE VOLUMES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR.

WEEK DAYS.			SUNDAYS.		Total .
Month.	Days open.	Volumes issued.	Days open.	Volumes issued.	
1902					
April	19 evenings, 7 days	1286	4	339	1625
May	21 " 5 "	1168	4	234	1402
June	17 " 6 "	628	5	168	796
July	18 " 9 "	708	4	189	897
August	8 " 16 "	1126	5	340	1466
September	22 " 4 "	1529	4	340	1869
October	23 " 4 "	2904	4	562	3466
November	20 " 5 "	2271	5	673	2944
December	16 " 9 "	2786	4	432	3218
1903					
January	20 " 7 "	2863	4	316	3179
February	20 " 4 "	2034	4	345	2379
March	22 " 4 "	1502	5	472	1974
TOTAL	226 evenings, 80 days	20,805	52	4410	25,215

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Total.
Philosophy	493	847	1340
Religion	1753	1439	3192
Sociology	8128	2039	10167
Language	8122	346	8468
Science	3391	1945	5336
Useful Arts	5191	2198	7389
Fine Arts	5292	4315	9607
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	7858	5022	12880
History, Biography, Travels	17309	10962	28271
Books for Children .....	...	15100	15100
Books in Boys' Room.....	...	...	25215
Prose Fiction .....	...	71310	71310
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Encyclopaedias, &c.)	10253	3083	13336
TOTAL.....	67,790	118,606	211,611

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

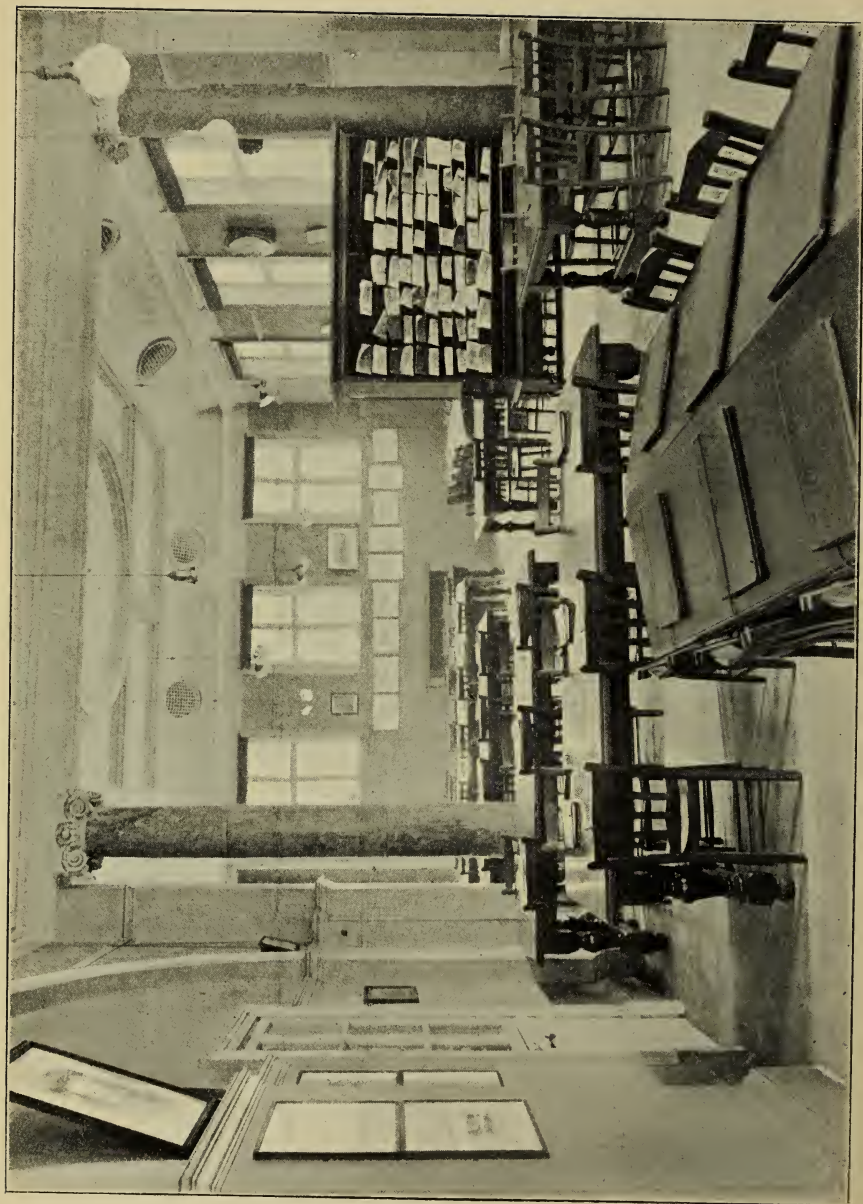


TABLE 6, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	...	...	...	...	45,905
1891-92	...	...	...	...	157,693
1892-93	...	...	...	...	168,623
1893-94	...	...	...	...	179,456
1894-95	...	...	...	...	180,016
1895-96	...	...	...	...	170,834
1896-97	...	...	...	...	171,298
1897-98	...	...	...	...	168,853
1898-99	...	...	...	...	171,585
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	...	...	...	...	159,892
1901-2	...	...	...	...	184,656
1902-3	...	...	...	...	211,611
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	<u>2,140,944</u>

TABLE 7, SHEWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING THE READING ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

1902.		TOTAL.
Thursday July 3rd	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	... 1006
Friday, August 22nd	(„ „)	... 1083
Monday, September 15th	(„ „)	... 1212
Tuesday, October 8th	(„ „)	... 1206
Saturday, November 22nd	(„ „)	... 1106
Monday, December 8th	(„ „)	... 1153
1903.		
Tuesday, January 13th	(„ „)	... 1285
Wednesday, January 21st	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	803
Thursday, February 19th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	... 1377
Friday, March 20th	(„ „)	... 1217
Saturday, April 25th	(„ „)	... 990

BANK HOLIDAYS.

Whit Monday, May 19th	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	187
First Monday in August, August 4th	(„ „)	191
Boxing Day, December 26th	(„ „)	160

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

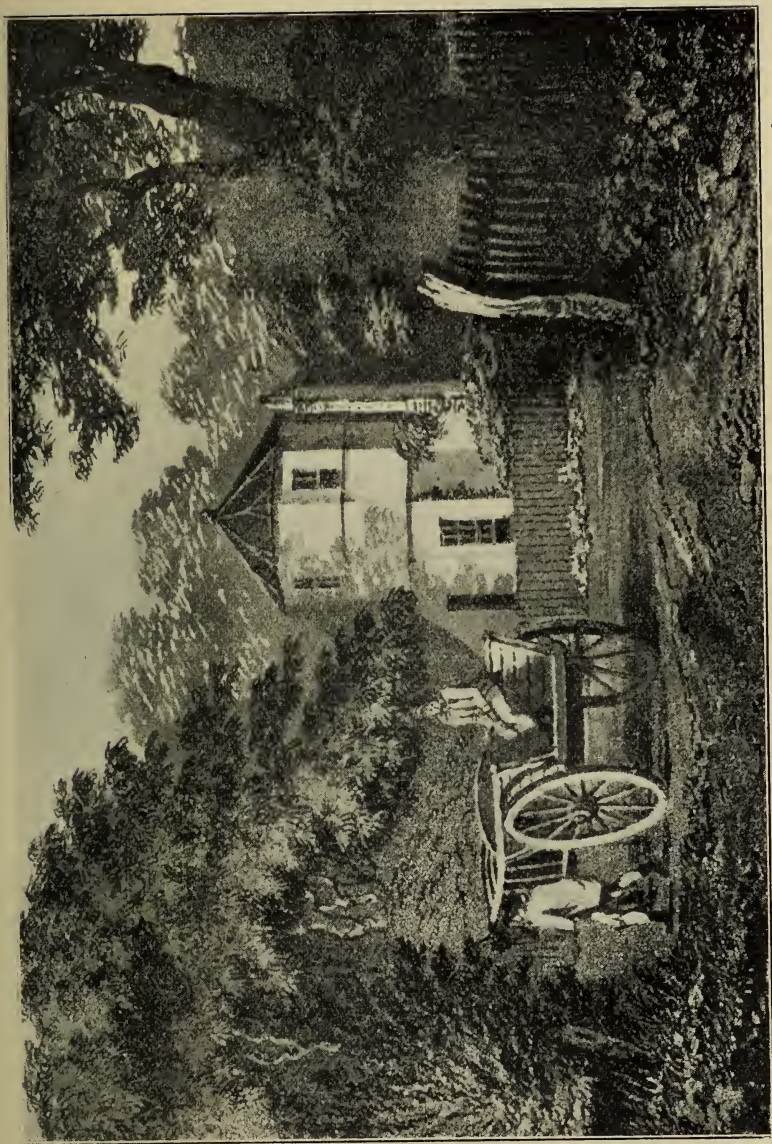
The Reading Rooms were open on 52 Sundays, the total attendance being 17,048, giving an average of 328 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.).

TABLE 8, SHOWING THE ADDITIONS TO, AND CLASSIFICATION OF, THE STOCK OF BOOKS.

CLASS.	Vols. in Library 31st Mar., 1902.	Vols. in Library. 31st Mar., 1903.	Increase.
Philosophy	507	581	74
Religion	2034	2250	216
Sociology	2418	2780	362
Language	381	418	37
Science	1922	2077	155
Useful Arts	1501	1780	279
Fine Arts	2236	2430	194
Literature	3616	3886	270
History, Biography, Travels	9631	10854	1223
Books for Children	2319	2356	37
Prose Fiction	5333	5414	81
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.).....	3189	3363	174
TOTAL.....	35,087	38,189	3,102

TABLE 9, SHOWING THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE BOOKS TO DEPARTMENTS.

	31st Mar., 1902.	31st Mar., 1903.	Increase.
Lending Department	21,749	23,078	1329
Reference Department	12,860	14,627	1767
Boys' Room	478	484	6
TOTAL.....	35,087	38,189	3,102



VIEW IN THE KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, 1792.
CORNER OF HANGMAN'S LANE (NOW CHELTENHAM TERRACE). FROM AN AQUATINT IN THE LIBRARY (NO. 128, QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY).

LIBRARY
OF THE
UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

STATEMENT AS TO LOANS UNDER THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACTS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1903.

Purpose of Loan.	Amount of loan sanctioned.	Date of Sanction.	Amount originally borrowed.	Name of lender.	Date of original borrowing.	For what period.	Mode of repayment, whether by annuity or otherwise.	Amount of principal owing at the commencement of the year.	Principal repaid during the year.	Amount of interest paid during the year.	Amount of principal owing at the end of the year.	Rate of interest.
Purchase of leasehold interests, Library site	£ 700	1st Feb., 1890	£ 700	London County Council	11th March, 1890	Yrs. 50	Annual instalments of £14	£ s. d. 532 0 0	£ s. d. 14 0 0	£ s. d. 18 12 4	£ s. d. 518 0 0	Per ann. 3½ %
Library building	10,750	Do.	10,700	Do.	Do.	30	Annuity in Half-yearly instalments of £290 os. 6d. covering principal and interest.	7688 8 2	312 10 0	267 11 0	07375 18 2	Do.
Bookshelving, Reference Library	1,200	25th April, 1901	1,200	Do.	11th Oct., 1901	15	Annual instalments of £80	1200 0 0	80 0 0	50 8 0	01120 0 0	Do.
TOTALS	£12,650		£12,600					£9420 8 2	406 10 0	336 11 0	49013 18 2	

METROPOLITAN BOR

FINANCIAL

The District Auditors Act, 1879 (42 Vict., c. 6), and the

Sums received and expended

RECEIPTS OTHER THAN FROM							
LOANS.				£	s.	d.	£ s. d.
Balance from 1901-2	...	...	...				287 19 8½
From Rates (allocated to Public							
Libraries Account)...	...			3200	0	0	
Fines and Penalties	...	...		66	5	1½	
Other Receipts:—							
Sale of catalogues, tickets,							
&c.	...	...	...	46	11	1½	
Bank interest	...	...		16	8	8	
				—————			62 19 9½
							————— 3329 4 11

Total £3617 4 7½

NOTE.—The above Statement

OUGH OF CHELSEA.

STATEMENT.

London Government Act, 1899 (62 and 63 Vict., c. 14).

under the Public Libraries Acts.

EXPENDITURE OTHER THAN OUT OF LOANS.				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs, and Maintenance :—									
Building and furniture repairs and improvements	...	...	...	224	9	6			
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting...	...			236	12	9			
							461	2	3
Books, Newspapers, &c.	...	...	...	1016	5	11			
Printing Catalogue	...	..	...	60	0	0			
Bookbinding ..	...	...	...	187	6	8			
							1263	12	7
Salaries of Officers and Assistants	...						911	3	4
Establishment charges, viz. :—									
Stationery, printing, postages, &c.	...			50	8	2½			
Rates and taxes	...	...	...	26	6	0			
Insurance	...	..	...	15	6	3			
Uniforms	...	...	...	6	15	0			
							98	15	5½
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans.									
Principal repaid :—									
To the London County Council	...			406	10	0			
Interest, including Income Tax :—									
To the London County Council	...			336	11	4			
							743	1	4
Total Expenditure	...	...	...				3477	14	11½
Balance :—									
Ordinary Account	...	...	...	71	8	1			
Chelsea Commemoration Fund	...			55	19	10			
In Librarian's hands	...	...		12	1	9			
							139	9	8
Total Expenditure (other than out of Loans) and Balance							£3617	4	7½

is subject to Audit.

Memoranda.

Population of the Borough of Chelsea (1901) ...	73,842
Area of the Borough	659·6 acres.
Rateable Value of the Borough	£806,492.
Public Libraries Acts adopted	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887.
Librarian appointed	Nov., 1887.
The Earl Cadogan gives the freehold of a site for the Library	Feb., 1888.
Charity Commissioners receive Deputation orga- nized by the Libraries Commissioners asking for the establishment of the South-Western Polytechnic	30th April, 1888.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall ...	7th Nov., 1887.
Temporary Library opened at Kensal Town ...	2nd Jan., 1888.
Memorial Stone of the Central Library laid by the Countess Cadogan	8th Feb, 1890.
Central Library, Manresa Road, S.W., opened by the Earl Cadogan	21st Jan., 1891.
Kensal Town Branch Library, Harrow Road, W., opened	16th Jan., 1900.
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened	4th Dec., 1899.
Libraries Commissioners' duties transferred to the Boroughs of Chelsea and Paddington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington	1st April, 1901.
Number of Volumes in the Library (Manresa Rd.)	38,189.
Number of Volumes issued 1902-3	211,611.
Total number issued since opening	2,140,944.

LIST OF COMMISSIONERS FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,
AND OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PUBLIC
LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS, CHELSEA, PAST AND PRESENT,
WITH THE YEARS IN WHICH THEY SERVED.

Mr. Charles C. Blore	1891-1903
Rev. A. Gerald W. Blunt, M.A.	1887-1889
The Earl Cadogan, K.G., Mayor (<i>ex-officio</i>)	1900-1901
Mr. Charles J. Corkran	1887-1888
Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P.	1887-1891
Hon. George Eden	1901-1903
Mr. Hugh E. Egerton, J.P.	1901-1903
Mr. Benjamin W. Findon	1889-1892
Mr. Douglas G. H. Gordon, J.P.	1894-1898
Mr. George Hilton	1887-1891
Mr. David H. Hodge (<i>Chairman</i> , 1891-1903)	1889-1903
Mr. Richard T. Hodges	1890-1891
Mr. Emslie J. Horniman	1901-1903
Mr. Charles Latter	1887-1900
Mr. Arthur F. Leach	1887-1890
Mr. John Mackenzie	1888-1892
Mr. Percy C. Morris	1898-1903
Mr. George W. Osborn, J.P. (<i>Chairman</i> , 1887-1889)	1887-1889
Mr. Herbert W. Paul	1901-1903
Mr. Foster W. Procter	1891-1903
Rev. Frederic Relton (<i>Chairman</i> , 1889-1891)	1887-1891
Mr. Thomas J. Robinson	1892-1903
Mr. George A. Spottiswoode	1887-1888
Mr. Frederick J. Welch	1901-1903
Mr. George White	1891-1903
Hon. Armine Wodehouse, C.B., M.P.	1892-1901
Major W. Fountain Woods, J.P., Mayor (<i>ex-officio</i>)	1901-1903
Mr. C. F. Woollons	1891-1892
Mr. Henry J. Wright	1891-1903
Mr. Henry Young	1888-1894

Donations may be paid to the Borough Treasurer, A. E. GADD, Esq., London and South-Western Bank, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W., and gifts of Books, Prints, or Works of Art will be received or sent for by the Librarian, Public Library, Manresa Road, S.W. Bequests to be made to the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea for the purposes of the Public Libraries and Museums.



MARY, LADY CADOGAN.

*From the proof mezzotint by J. Dean, after Sir Joshua Reynolds, 1787.
[No. 254, Queen Victoria Gallery.]*

METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1904.



LONDON :

PRINTED BY G. SHIELD, LANCELOT PLACE, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.

MAY, 1904.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums,

1903-4.

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Chelsea Public Library.

SEVENTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1903-1904.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums have pleasure in submitting their report for the year ending 31st March, 1904.

Last year it was reported that the total number of volumes issued, 211,611, was the highest since the opening of the Library; for the year under review it is gratifying to record a further increase of 4,979, giving a total issue of 216,590 volumes.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued in this Department during the year was 64,766, as compared with 67,790 last year. Though this is a decrease of 3,024 volumes, the former figure was an increase of no less than 63·6 per cent. on the previous year, consequent upon the improvements introduced into the Department; thus it will be seen that the falling off is comparatively slight. The decrease extends over all classes of literature, with the two exceptions of Class I (History) and Class L (Miscellaneous), this latter class consisting mainly of encyclopædias and works of a general character.

The number of volumes added to the Department during the year was 1,297, making the total number 15,924, apart from the stock of the Lending Department, which is also largely available for reference, and is catalogued with the Reference Library for this purpose.

Lecturers and Teachers of the South-Western Polytechnic have

the privilege of borrowing books from this Department for use during their lectures, and 389 volumes were issued for this purpose.

As in former years, lists of books were prepared for the Students attending the lectures of the University Extension Society, the subjects of the lists this year being "Greek Literature, Art and Archæology, in connection with the Odyssey," and "Christianity in the first three centuries of the Roman Empire."

The following is one of these lists :—

LIST OF BOOKS IN THE CHELSEA PUBLIC LIBRARY
DEALING WITH GREEK LITERATURE, ART, AND
ARCHÆOLOGY.

*For the use of Students attending the Homer Lectures at the South
Western Polytechnic.*

HOMER.

Texts.

- The Iliad ; with English notes by F. A. Paley. (*Bibliotheca classica*.)
2 v. 1866-84.
The Iliad ; ed., with apparatus criticus, prolegomena, notes, and
appendices, by Walter Leaf. 2 v. 1900-2.
Odyssey ; ed., with English notes, appendices, &c., by W. Walter Merry,
James Riddell, and D. B. Monro. 2 v. 1886-1901.
Odyssey ; ed. by W. W. Merry. Books 1-12. 1870.

Translations.

- The Iliad ; done into English prose by Andrew Lang, Walter Leaf, and
Ernest Myers. 1892.
The Odyssey ; done into English prose by S. H. Butcher and Andrew
Lang. 1890.
The Iliad and Odyssey ; transl. by George Chapman. 1885.
The Iliad ; transl. by Alex. Pope, with notes by T. A. Buckley.
Designs by Flaxman. v. 2. Books 12-24. 1853.
The Odyssey ; transl. by Alex. Pope, with notes by T. A. Buckley.
Designs by Flaxman. 1853.
The Iliad and Odyssey ; transl. by Alex. Pope. 1883.
The Odyssey ; done into English verse by William Morris. 1897.
The Odyssey ; transl. by J. W. Mackail. Books 1-8. 1903. (In Omar
Khayyam metre).

Books dealing specially with Homer.

- Church, Alfred J. The story of the Iliad. 1892.
— The story of the Odyssey. 1892.
Leaf, Walter. A companion to the Iliad for English readers. 1892.
Jebb, Sir R. C. Homer : an introduction to the Iliad and the Odyssey.
1898.
Lang, Andrew. Homer and the epic. 1893.

- Perry, Walter. *The women of Homer.* 1898.
 Arnold, Matthew. *On translating Homer.* 1896.
 Keller, Albert G. *Homeric society: a sociological study of the Iliad and Odyssey.* 1902.
 Collins, W. Lucas. *Ancient classics for English readers:—*
 The Iliad. 1887.
 The Odyssey. 1870.

ARCHÆOLOGY.

- Perrot, Georges, and Charles Chipiez. *History of art in Primitive Greece: Mycenaean art.* 2 v. 1894.
 Tsountas, Chrestos, and J. I. Manatt. *The Mycenaean age: a study of the monuments and culture of pre-Homeric Greece; with an introduction by Dr. Dörpfeld.* 1903.
 Cockerell, C. R. *The temples of Jupiter Panhellenius at Ægina and of Apollo Epicurius at Bassæ in Arcadia.* 1860.
 Newton, Chas. T. *Essays on art and archæology.* 1880.
 — and R. P. Pullen. *A history of discoveries at Halicarnassus, Cnidus, and Branchidæ.* 2 v. in 3. 1862-63.
 Hall, H. R. *The oldest civilization of Greece: studies of the Mycenaean age.* 1901.
 Collignon, Maxime. *A manual of Greek archæology.* 1886.
 Schuchhardt, C. *Schliemann's excavations: the results of excavations at Troy, Tiryns, &c.* 1891.
 Schliemann, Henry. *Ilios, the city and country of the Trojans: the results of researches and discoveries on the site of Troy and throughout the Troad in the years 1871-79.* 1880.
 — *Mycenæ: a narrative of researches and discoveries at Mycenæ and Tiryns; preface by W. E. Gladstone.* 1878.
 — *Tiryns, the prehistoric palace of the Kings of Tiryns: the results of the latest excavations; preface by F. Adler, and contributions by Wm. Dörpfeld.* 1886.
 — *Troja: results of the latest researches and discoveries on the site of Homer's Troy, and in the heroic tumuli and other sites, made in the year 1882; and a narrative of a journey in the Troad in 1881; preface by A. H. Sayce.* 1884.
 — *Troy and its remains: a narrative of researches and discoveries made on the site of Ilium and in the Trojan plain; ed. by Philip Smith.* 1875.

HISTORY.

- Ridgeway, Wm. *The early age of Greece.* v. 1. 1901.
 Bury, J. B. *A history of Greece to the death of Alexander the Great.* 1900.
 — *History of Greece for beginners.* 1903.
 G., E. E. *The makers of Hellas: a critical inquiry into the philosophy and religion of ancient Greece; with an introduction, notes, and conclusion by Frank B. Jevons.* 1903.
 Mahaffy, J. P. *A survey of Greek civilization.* 1897.

SCULPTURE.

- Smith, A. H. A catalogue of sculpture in the Department of Greek and Roman Antiquities, British Museum. 2 v. 1892-1900.
- Paris, Pierre. Manual of ancient sculpture; ed. and augmented by Jane E. Harrison. 1890.
- Furtwängler, Adolf. Masterpieces of Greek sculpture: essays on the history of art. 1895.
- und H. L. Ulrichs. Denkmäler griechischer und römischer Skulptur. 1898.
- Legge, H. Edith. A short history of the ancient Greek sculptors. 1903.
- Reinach, Salomon. Répertoire de la statuaire grecque et romaine. 2 v. in 3. 1897-98.
- Murray, A. S. A history of Greek sculpture. 2 v. 1890.
- Perry, Walter C. Greek and Roman sculpture: a popular introduction to the history of Greek and Roman sculpture. 1882.
- Classical sculpture gallery: reproductions from galleries and private collections of Europe; ed. by F. von Reber and A. Bayersdorfer. 1897.
- Upcott, L. E. An introduction to Greek sculpture. 1887.
- Mitchell, Lucy M. A history of ancient sculpture. 1883.
- Murray, A. S. The sculptures of the Parthenon. 1903.
- Gardner, Percy. Sculptured tombs of Hellas. 1896.

TERRA COTTAS AND BRONZES.

- Murray, A. S. Greek bronzes. 1899.
- Huish, Marcus B. Greek terracotta statuettes: their origin, evolution, and uses. 1900.
- Hutton, C. A. Greek terracotta statuettes. 1899.

* * This list consists of the Books recommended by the Lecturer, and does not show the full resources of the Library in these subjects.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

In contrast to the decrease in the issues from the Reference Department, there was an improvement in the issues from the Lending Department by 5,627 volumes. Last year the number of volumes issued was 118,606, while for the present year an issue of 124,233 volumes is recorded. This increase is distributed over all classes in the Department.

During the year 324 worn-out books, principally works of fiction, were withdrawn from circulation, and of these 126 were not replaced. In addition 27 books were destroyed under an

arrangement made with the Public Health Department, and of these 12 were cancelled. This gives a net addition of 792 volumes to the stock, although 930 new volumes were added. The number of volumes available for home reading is now 23,870.

The number of tickets issued, entitling to the use of this Department, was 2,999; of these 2,459 were Readers' Tickets, 415 Students' Tickets, and 125 Music Tickets; those cancelled numbered 2,861, *viz.*: 2,387 Readers' Tickets, 352 Students Tickets, and 122 Music Tickets. This leaves 5,706 tickets now in force, an increase of 138 on last year.

CHARACTER OF THE READING.

In connection with the issue of books, it is interesting to compare the class of literature read now with that of the first complete year of the Library's work, and also with that of the middle period (1897-98). The issues in the Boys' Room are omitted as they have no particular bearing on the subject.

CLASS.	1891-92.		1897-98.		1903-04.	
	Issue.	Per cent.	Issue.	Per cent.	Issue.	Per cent.
Philosophy	811	·58	1103	·75	1411	·75
Religion	2109	1·5	2280	1·56	3204	1·69
Sociology	1895	1·35	2748	1·88	7971	4·22
Language	1551	1·1	1544	1·05	6878	3·64
Science	4172	2·97	5442	3·72	5572	2·95
Useful Arts.....	3996	2·85	6831	4·66	6853	3·62
Fine Arts	4871	3·47	8049	5·49	9941	5·26
Literature	6586	4·69	6904	4·71	12939	6·85
History, Biography, Travels...	14802	10·54	15285	10·43	30959	16·38
Books for Children	22927	16·32	15698	10·71	15918	8·42
Prose Fiction	72286	51·46	73930	50·45	72575	38·4
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Encyclopædias, &c.)	4454	3·17	6724	4·59	14778	7·82
Total	140460	100·	146538	100·	188999	100·

This table shows a marked improvement in the character of the reading, and it can be asserted that at no time in the history of the Institution was better and more solid work being done than now,

the general tendency being towards reading of a more educational nature.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

It will be seen by Table 7 that the attendances on a full day of thirteen hours (9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) varied from 951 on June 30th, 1903, to 1,628 on 12th February, 1904. During the winter months the attendance was higher than usual, and at times, both in the earlier part of the day and in the evening, the room was inconveniently crowded. The great improvement in the ventilation, brought about by the introduction of the electrical ventilating fan and in the lighting by the installation of Nernst lamps has, no doubt, contributed to this result, although the large attendance in the morning, particularly of persons coming to consult the advertisement pages, would seem to indicate that more people than usual were in search of employment. The average daily attendance, as shown by the counting, was 1,254, as against 1,164 last year. On Sundays (3 to 9 p.m.) the total attendance was 18,154, being a daily average of 349, as against 328 last year. In their last report the Committee stated that "the opening of the Reading Rooms on Bank Holidays is apparently unappreciated, the average number of visits made being only 179." There is a further falling off in the attendance on these days, the average being but 156, and, when compared with the ordinary attendance, makes it questionable whether it is worth while to open on these holidays.

BOYS' READING ROOM.

This room was open 278 evenings (inclusive of Sundays) from 5.30 to 9 p.m., and on 81 days from 10 a.m. to 9 p.m., the number of volumes issued being 27,591, as against 25,215 last year. At present this room is mainly used by small boys, who come in greatest numbers in wet weather, to look at pictures in volumes of "The Graphic," "Illustrated London News," and other pictorial papers, and about 25 per cent. read story books. While in this way a useful purpose is served in accustoming boys to use the Library, in encouraging the habit of reading, and in keeping them



THE BIRD FANCIERS.

A pair of Chelsea china figures in the Yates Bequest.

out of the streets, it is possible to develop this department of the Institution by providing children with an adequate and properly equipped room in which their preparation work might be done, and by the provision of additional books of a more directly educational character.

LOCAL COLLECTION.

The principal additions to the Collection consist of two etchings, by the late J. McN. Whistler, of "Cadogan Pier" and "Chelsea Bridge and Church," purchased out of the Chelsea Commemoration Fund; 18 large photographs of old Chelsea, purchased at the sale of the effects of the late Councillor J. H. Brass, and two others from the same source presented by Mr. Charles Brass; a large framed photograph of the interior of the Old Church, presented by Mr. T. G. Cooling; a large framed portrait of Major W. Fountain Woods, Mayor of Chelsea, presented by the Mayor; five deeds relating to Chelsea property, and bearing seals and signatures of several of the principal residents, in the following years:—1648, 1687, 1706, 1724, 1754; a collection of sundry papers relating to local affairs, 1820-1860, presented by Mr. W. Ascroft; and papers relating to St. Luke's Church during the Rectorship of the late Rev. Gerald Blunt, presented by Mr. Reginald Blunt. Besides these, volumes have been prepared and completed of Chelsea Election Literature, 1891-1902, Obituary and other notices of the late J. McN. Whistler, and on the Carlyle *v.* Froude Controversy. Three further volumes have been added to the Chelsea collection of miscellaneous prints and photographs, now making six, and the material has been collected and prepared for four additional volumes. The Borough Council has placed in the Library an album containing portraits of the members of the first Borough Council, presented by Mr. W. E. Downey, of Carlyle Square.

THE YATES BEQUEST.

Under the will of Mrs. Henrietta Yates, of Penshurst (daughter-

in-law of the Rev. Richard Yates, D.D., Chaplain of Chelsea Hospital, 1798-1834), who died 6th January, 1904, the Library received a number of articles consisting of a small collection of old English china, including some Chelsea pieces ; seven pictures in oils and watercolours, including a portrait of Dr. Yates ; a small collection of English gold and silver coins from William I. to Victoria ; several pieces of old English silver plate ; some engravings ; and other objects. In addition, Mrs. Yates bequeathed to the Library the sum of £100, and left the whole free of legacy duty. During her lifetime Mrs. Yates presented the Library with a collection of books.

DONORS OF BOOKS.

The following is a list of those who presented books and pamphlets during the year :—

Mr. William Ascroft ; Sir Wm. Bailey ; Miss L. Bellevue ; Mr. Reginald Blunt ; Board of Trade ; Agent-General for British Columbia ; British Museum Trustees ; British South Africa Company ; Brooklyn Institute, U.S.A. ; Mr. Sydney Brooks ; Messrs. T. B. Browne & Co. ; Lady Buxton ; Canadian Department of Agriculture ; Canterbury Chamber of Trade ; Cape Colony, Department of Agriculture ; Mr. Geo. Carter ; Miss Grace Carter ; Messrs. Cassell & Co. ; Chelsea Borough Council ; Hon. Joseph H. Choate ; City and Guilds of London Institute ; Rt. Hon. Leonard H. Courtney ; Dr. R. N. Cust, J.P. ; Messrs. Dawbarn & Ward ; Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, M.P. ; Mr. F. B. Doveton ; East End Emigration Fund ; Mr. R. J. Edwards ; Mr. H. E. Egerton, J.P. ; Publishers of "Engineering" ; Mr. Fergusson ; Mr. H. W. Fincham ; Mr. Alfred C. Fryer ; Mr. John P. Gannon ; Geological Survey of Canada ; Great Western Railway Company ; Guildhall Library Committee ; Harvard College, U.S.A. ; Mr. Brandon Head ; Mr. Daniel Hipwell ; H.M. Stationery Office ; Publishers of "Home Words" ; Mr. E. J. Horniman, L.C.C. ; Incorporated National Lending Library for the Blind ; International Buddhist Society, Rangoon ; Irish Landowners'

Convention ; Mrs. James ; Mr. M. G. Jessett ; Kendal Public Library Committee ; Messrs. C. & E. Layton ; Library of Congress, U.S.A. ; Liverpool Library, Museum, and Arts Committee ; London Chamber of Commerce ; London County Council ; London County Council School of Photo-engraving and Lithography ; London School Board ; London Society for Promoting Christianity amongst the Jews ; Mrs. E. L. Lowther ; Miss McKinnel ; Manchester Public Libraries Committee ; Mrs. V. Maslin ; Messrs. Mather & Crowther, Ltd. ; Mr. J. Middleton ; Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co. ; Montevideo Bureau of International Exchanges ; Agent-General for New South Wales ; Agent-General for New Zealand ; Newcastle Public Libraries Committee ; Agent-General for Nova Scotia ; Miss O'Callaghan ; Messrs. J. & J. Paton ; Mrs. William Pennack ; The Worshipful Company of Plumbers ; Mr. E. H. Pritchard ; Religious Tract Society ; Mr. C. E. Roche ; Royal National Lifeboat Institution ; Russian Government ; St. John Ambulance Association ; Mr. Eugen Sandow ; Mrs. Scantlebury ; Messrs. Sherratt & Hughes ; Mr. Philip Sidney ; Mr. Warren B. Smith ; Society of Accountants and Auditors ; South Eastern and Chatham Railway Company ; Rev. James Strachan, M.A. ; Mr. C. W. Sutton ; Agent-General for Tasmania ; Tonic Sol-fa College ; Trinity College, London ; Mr. A. L. Turnbull ; Unionist Free Food League ; United States Bureau of Education ; University Tutorial Press ; Messrs. Veale, Chifferiel & Co. ; Victoria Hospital for Children ; Volta Bureau, U.S.A. ; Mr. Adair Welcker ; Wellcome Physiological Research Laboratories ; Agent-General for Western Australia ; Prof. J. Westlake, K.C. ; Wigan Public Library Committee ; Mr. W. G. Wright ; Miss Lucy H. Yates. Annual reports have been received from a number of British and American Public Libraries.

NEWSPAPERS, &C. PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—

Academic Gazette, Accountant, African Review, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Animals' Guardian, Athenæum, Bric-a-Brac, Britain's

Opium-Harvest, British Architect, British Australasian, Broad Arrow, Brotherhood, Buddhism, Business Life, Canadian Gazette, Charity Organization Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Child's Guardian, Christian, Christian Globe, Church Family Newspaper, Church of England League Gazette, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerk of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, County Gentleman, Cowkeeper and Dairyman's Journal, Drapers' Record, Educational Review, Educational Times, Electrical Review, Engineer's Gazette, Englishwoman's Review, Estates Gazette, Ethics, Everyday Electricity, Extensionist, Fireman, Food and Cookery, Free Life, Free Russia, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Herald of Health, Hospital, Humanitarian, Incorporated Accountants Journal, Indian Opinion, Indicator, Individualist, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Insurance Spectator, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Labour Co-Partnership, Labour Gazette, Land and Water, Laundry Journal, Liberty Review, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Chronicle, Local Government Journal, London Argus, London Crusader, London Technical Education Gazette, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Manual Training Teacher, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Mining Market Record, Modern Society, Motor Cycle, Musical Herald, Musical News, Musicians' Report and Journal, Natal Mercury, National Service Journal, Nature Notes, Navy League Journal, New Century Path, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Patents, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Picture Post-Card Magazine, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Printer's Register, Printseller and Collector, Public Health Journal, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, Scraps, South Africa, State Correspondent, Stone Trades Journal, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Timber Trades Journal, Tongues of Fire, Tool and Machinery Register, Travel, Tuberculosis, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian Messenger, West Africa, Young Journalist and Author, Zoophilist.

Besides the above, the following persons presented the periodicals named :—

Dr. A. Hinckes Bird, British Medical Journal. Mr. George Carter, Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. E. Chambers, Bible Society Monthly Reporter, Gleanings for the Young. Chelsea Temperance Society, Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, The English Churchman. Mr. and Mrs. E. M. Fairchild (Albany, N.Y.), The Youth's Companion. Professor Westlake, K.C., Economic Journal.

The Chelsea Borough Council, Chelsea Board of Guardians, London County Council, and London School Board have sent copies of their Minutes of Proceedings as issued.



T. Murray pinx

*Sir Hans Sloane, Bart.
Collegij. Regij. Medicinæ. Professor, &c.*

SIR HANS SLOANE (1660-1753).

*Purchased the Manor of Chelsea, 1712. From the mezzotint by J. Faber, Jun. after
T. Murray, 1728. No. 263, Queen Victoria Gallery.*

Official time tables were received from the following Railway Companies :—District, Great Central, Great Eastern, Great Northern, Great Western, London Brighton and South Coast, London and North Western, London and South Western, Midland, South Eastern and Chatham.

PADDINGTON AND CHELSEA FINANCIAL ADJUSTMENT.

The Scheme of Financial Adjustment between the Boroughs of Paddington and Chelsea, prepared under the provisions of the London Government Act, was received during the year. The claim made by Paddington, on account of the transfer of the Kensal Town Library to that Borough, was :—

	£
For outstanding loans 	3,340
Capitalised amount of the average annual deficit on the mainten- ance of the Library, <i>viz.</i> , £368, at $3\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. per annum ...	11,297
	<hr/>
	£14,637
	<hr/>

Under the Scheme it is provided that the annual sum of £300 shall be payable to Paddington, in respect of Public Library purposes, for a period of twenty years, commencing on the “appointed day” (1st April, 1901), and that of the capital sum payable by the Paddington Council to Chelsea, the sum of £2,566 shall be payable in respect of Public Library purposes, and this sum has been received. In accordance with the Scheme, the Committee have paid out of their income during the year the sum of £600 on account of two years from the “appointed day.” This payment reduced the amount available for the purchase of books, absorbed the balance to the credit of the Committee at the beginning of the year, and caused the expenditure to exceed the income by the sum of £42 12s. 8½d. A further sum of £600 has accrued due to be paid out of next year’s income.

EXCHANGE OF LAND.

The piece of land reserved at the rear of the Library for future extension is so irregular in shape that the present building could not be extended satisfactorily. In view of the early expiration of the leases of the adjoining land, an arrangement has been made with the Earl Cadogan to exchange a small piece of the Library land behind the houses in Carlyle Square for a piece of similar size and value behind the houses in the King's Road. This will make the site of a suitable shape for additions to the Library building when required. For the protection of the light and air on the south side, it has also been agreed that no building shall be erected within ten feet of the Library boundary wall on that side. These arrangements were sanctioned by the Borough Council, and the exchange of land has also received the sanction of the Local Government Board, under an Order dated 24th February, 1904. It may be mentioned that the freehold of the whole site of the Library was the gift of the Earl Cadogan.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—283½.		SUNDAYS. Days open—52.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	349	1	71	1
Religion	1384	5	162	3
Sociology	5373	19	346	7
Language	5691	20	722	14
Science	3027	11	249	5
Useful Arts	3655	13	499	9
Fine Arts	4588	16	347	7
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	6514	23	475	9
History, Biography, Travels	18179	64	1244	24
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	10523	37	1368	26
TOTAL.....	59,283	209	5483	105

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—281½.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	991	3
Religion ..	1658	6
Sociology	2252	8
Language	465	2
Science	2296	8
Useful Arts ...	2699	10
Fine Arts	5006	18
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5950	21
History, Biography, Travels	11536	41
Books for Children	15918	56
Prose Fiction	72575	258
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.) ...	2887	10
TOTAL.....	124,233	441

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5706.

BOYS' ROOM.

TABLE 3, SHOWING THE VOLUMES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR.

WEEK DAYS.				SUNDAYS.		Total.
Month.	Days open.		Volumes issued.	Days open.	Volumes issued.	
1903						
April	17 evenings,	7 days	1050	4	328	1378
May	21	„ 5 „	770	5	373	1143
June	18	„ 5 „	563	4	192	755
July	18	„ 9 „	1192	4	183	1375
August	9	„ 16 „	1360	5	303	1663
September	22	„ 4 „	1398	4	279	1677
October	22	„ 5 „	2607	4	506	3113
November	21	„ 4 „	2685	5	688	3373
December	19	„ 7 „	3367	4	547	3914
1904						
January	16	„ 10 „	3563	5	575	4138
February	21	„ 4 „	1967	4	530	2497
March	22	„ 5 „	2133	4	432	2565
TOTAL	226 evenings, 81 days		22,655	52	4936	27,591

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Total.
Philosophy	420	991	1411
Religion	1546	1658	3204
Sociology	5719	2252	7971
Language	6413	465	6878
Science	3276	2296	5572
Useful Arts	4154	2699	6853
Fine Arts	4935	5006	9941
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	6989	5950	12939
History, Biography, Travels	19423	11536	30959
Books for Children .....	...	15918	15918
Books in Boys' Room .....	...	...	27591
Prose Fiction .....	...	72575	72575
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Encyclopædias, &c.)	11891	2887	14778
TOTAL	64,766	124,233	216,590

DE OPTI

MO REIP. STATV DEQVE
noua insula Vtopia libellus uer-
re aureus, nec minus salutaris
quàm festiuus, clarissimi disertis-
simiq; uiri THOMAE MORI in-
dyltæ ciuitatis Londinensis ciuis
& Viccomitis.

EPIGRAMMATA clarissimi
disertissimiq; uiri THOMAE
MORI, pleraq; è Græcis uersa,
EPIGRAMMATA. Des. Eras-
mi Roterodami.

Apud indlytam Basileam.

18.



MORE'S UTOPIA.

Title page of the Basle edition, 1518, believed to be the design of Holbein. From the copy presented to the Library by the late Alfred Cock, Q.C.

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	...	...	...	...	45,905
1891-92	...	...	...	...	157,693
1892-93	...	...	...	...	168,623
1893-94	...	...	...	...	179,456
1894-95	...	...	...	...	180,016
1895-96	...	...	...	...	170,834
1896-97	...	...	...	...	171,298
1897-98	...	...	...	...	168,853
1898-99	...	...	...	...	171,585
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	...	...	...	...	159,892
1901-2	...	...	...	...	184,656
1902-3	...	...	...	...	211,611
1903-4	...	...	...	...	216,590
TOTAL					<u>2,357,534</u>

TABLE 6, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING THE READING ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

		Total.
1903		
Saturday, April 25th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	990
Monday, May 11th	(" ")	1173
Tuesday, June 30th	(" ")	951
Wednesday, July 29th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	752
Thursday, August 13th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	1072
Friday, September 4th	(" ")	988
Saturday, October 3rd	(" ")	1103
Monday, November 2nd	(" ")	1372
Tuesday, December 15th	(" ")	1454
1904		
Wednesday, January 27th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	889
Thursday, February 12th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	1628
Friday, March 18th	(" ")	1428

BANK HOLIDAYS.

Easter Monday, April 13th	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	175
Whit Monday, June 1st	(" ")	171
First Monday in August, August 3rd	(" ")	158
Boxing Day, December 26th	(" ")	122

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

The Reading Rooms were open on 52 Sundays, the total attendance being 18,154, giving an average of 349 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.).

TABLE 7, SHOWING THE ADDITIONS TO, AND CLASSIFICATION OF, THE STOCK OF BOOKS.

CLASS.	Vols. in Library 31st Mar., 1903.	Vols. in Library. 31st Mar., 1904.	Increase.
Philosophy	581	624	43
Religion	2250	2378	128
Sociology	2780	2980	200
Language	418	436	18
Science	2077	2177	100
Useful Arts	1780	2069	289
Fine Arts	2430	2598	168
Literature	3886	4032	146
History, Biography, Travels	10854	11508	654
Books for Children	2356	2410	54
Prose Fiction	5414	5486	72
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.).....	3363	3592	229
TOTAL.....	38,189	40,290	2,101

TABLE 8, SHOWING THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE BOOKS TO DEPARTMENTS.

	31st Mar., 1903.	31st Mar., 1904.	Increase.
Lending Department	23,078	23,870	792
Reference Department	14,627	15,924	1297
Boys' Room	484	496	12
TOTAL.....	38,189	40,290	2,101

STATEMENT AS TO LOANS UNDER THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACTS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1904.

Purpose of Loan.	Amount of loan sanctioned.	Date of Sanction.	Amount originally borrowed.	Name of lender.	Date of original borrowing.	For what period.	Mode of repayment, whether by annuity or otherwise.	Amount of principal owing at the commencement of the year.	Principal repaid during the year.	Amount of interest paid during the year.	Amount of principal owing at the end of the year.	Rate of interest.
								£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	Per ann.
Purchase of leasehold interests, Library site	£ 700	1st Feb., 1890	£ 700	London County Council	11th March, 1890	Vrs. 50	Annual instalments of £ 14	£ 518 0 0	£ 14 0 0	£ 18 2 8	£ 504 0 0	3½ %
Library building	10,750	Do.	10,700	Do.	Do.	30	Annuity in Half-yearly instalments of £290 os. 6d. covering principal and interest.	7375 18 2	323 11 8	256 9 4	7052 6 6	Do.
Bookshelving, Reference Library	1,200	25th April, 1901	1,200	Do.	11th Oct., 1901	15	Annual instalments of £80	1120 0 0	80 0 0	37 2 0	1040 0 0	Do.
TOTALS	£12,650		£12,600					£9013 18 2	417 11 8	311 14 0	8596 6 6	

METROPOLITAN BOR

FINANCIAL

The District Auditors Act, 1879 (42 Vict., c. 6), and the

Sums received and expended

RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1902-3				83	9	10
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries Account)	3,300	0	0			
Fines and Penalties	74	10	9			
Other Receipts :—						
Sale of catalogues, tickets, &c. ...	50	9	3			
Bank interest	8	8	2			
				3,433	8	2
Total Receipts and Balance				3,516	18	0
Balance (being expenditure in excess of income)				42	12	8½

£3,559 10 8½

CHELSEA COMMEMORA

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1902-3	55	19	10
	<u>£55</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>

PADDINGTON AND CHELSEA CAPITAL

Received from Paddington Borough Council... .. £2,566 0 0

OUGH OF CHELSEA.

STATEMENT.

London Government Act, 1899 (62 and 63 Vict., c. 14).

under the Public Libraries Acts.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs, and Maintenance :—						
Building and furniture repairs and improvements	152	11	6			
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting... ..	243	7	1½			
Rates and taxes, insurance	39	5	1			
				435	3	8½
Books, Newspapers, &c.	610	3	1			
Printing Catalogues	23	1	6			
Bookbinding... ..	105	2	2			
				738	6	9
Salaries of Officers and Assistants				993	14	0
Establishment charges, viz. :—						
Stationery and printing	43	16	0			
Carriage, postage, &c.	12	4	7			
Uniforms	7	0	0			
				63	0	7
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans.						
Principal repaid :						
To the London County Council	417	11	8			
Interest, including Income Tax :—						
To the London County Council	311	14	0			
				729	5	8
Payment to Paddington Borough Council under Financial Adjustment scheme.				600	0	0
Total Expenditure				<u>£3,559</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>8½</u>

TION (1837—1897) FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Purchase of Chelsea Prints, &c.	10	11	0
Balance	45	8	10
	<u>£55</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>10</u>

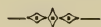
(ADJUSTMENT) SCHEME. ACCOUNT.

Balance in hand	<u>£2,566</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>
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J. HENRY QUINN,

Clerk to the Public Libraries Committee.

Memoranda.



Population of the Borough of Chelsea (1901) ...	73,842
Area of the Borough	659·6 acres.
Rateable Value of the Borough	£829,165
Public Libraries Acts adopted	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall ...	7th Nov., 1887.
Librarian appointed	Nov., 1887.
Temporary Library opened at Kensal Town ...	2nd Jan., 1888.
The Earl Cadogan gives the freehold of a site for the Library	Feb., 1888.
Charity Commissioners receive Deputation orga- nized by the Libraries Commissioners asking for the establishment of the South-Western Polytechnic ... ..	...30th April, 1888.
Reply received from the Charity Commission agreeing to the establishment of the Poly- technic ... ..	... 10th May, 1888.
Kensal Town Branch Library, Harrow Road, W., opened by Rev. Frederic Relton ... ..	... 16th Jan., 1890.
Memorial Stone of the Central Library laid by the Countess Cadogan ... ..	... 8th Feb., 1890.
Central Library, Manresa Road, S.W., opened by the Earl Cadogan ... ..	... 21st Jan., 1891.
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened ... ..	... 4th Dec., 1899.
Public Libraries Commissioners' duties trans- ferred to the Boroughs of Chelsea and Pad- dington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington ... ..	... 1st April, 1901.
Number of Volumes in the Library	40,293
Number of Volumes issued 1903-4	216,590
Total number issued since opening (Manresa Road)	2,357,534

Donations may be paid to the Borough Treasurer, A. E. GADD, Esq., London and South-Western Bank, King's Road, Chelsea, S.W., and gifts of Books, Prints, or Works of Art will be received or sent for by the Librarian, Public Library, Manresa Road, S.W. Bequests to be made to the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea for the purposes of the Public Libraries and Museums.

CHELSEA PUBLIC LIBRARY.

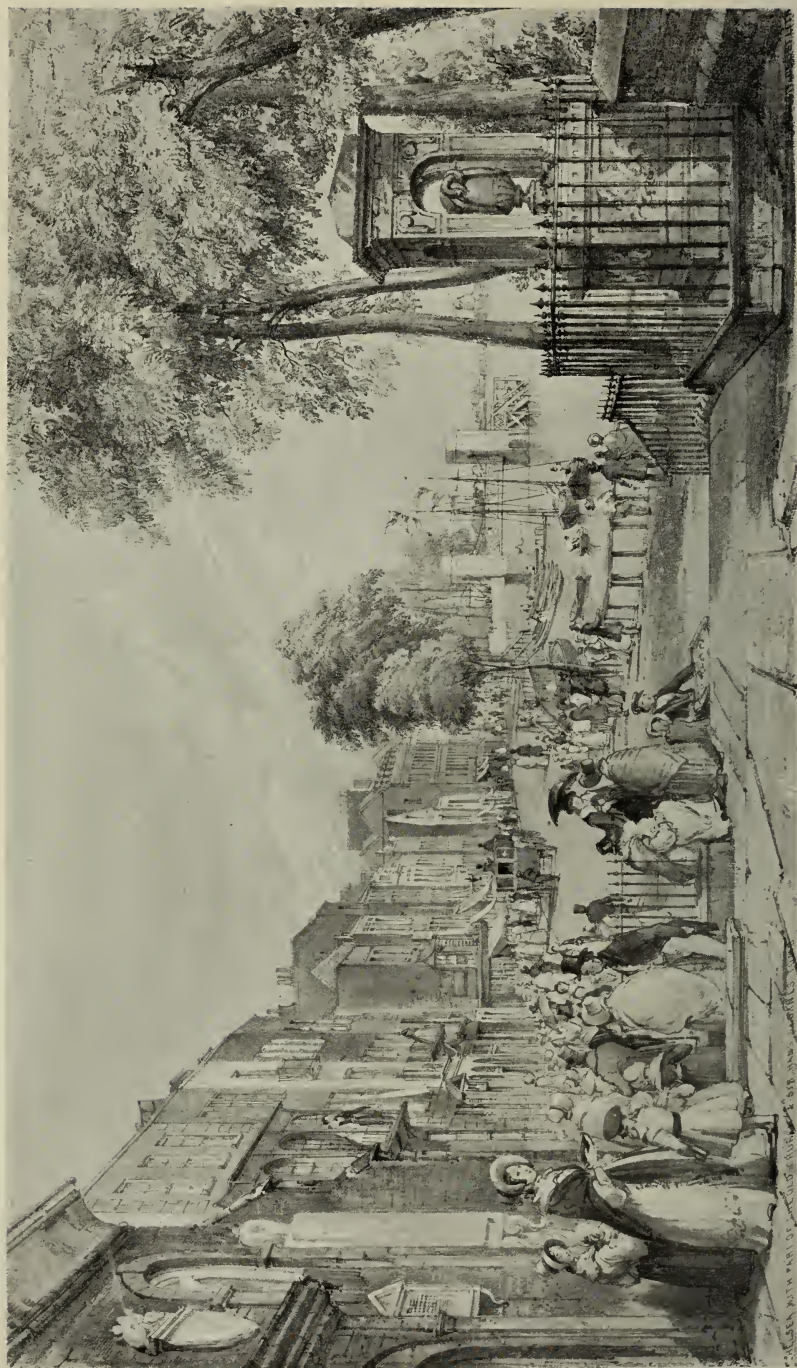
Catalogues of the Lending Department.

Part 1: (Dictionary form) Containing the whole of the books to 1897 (15,800 volumes.) Royal octavo, 350 pages. Price One Shilling.

Part 2: (Classified) Containing the books added during the years 1898-1902 (7,000 volumes). Royal octavo, 175 pages. Price Sixpence.

Special Classified Catalogue of Technical Books for Polytechnic and other Students. 1895. Royal octavo, 40 pages. Price One Penny.

N.B.--All these Catalogues are sold under the cost of printing.



CHEYNE WALK FROM THE OLD CHURCH, LOOKING EASTWARD. FROM A LITHOGRAPH BY BAROTE, NUMBER 6 IN THE QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY.

METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE
FOR
PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1905.



LONDON :
PRINTED BY G. SHIELD, LANCELOT PLACE, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.
—
MAY, 1905.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums,

1904-5.

COUNCILLOR DAVID H. HODGE, **Chairman.**

COUNCILLOR JAMES JEFFERY, J.P., L.C.C., **Mayor.**

COUNCILLOR W. FOUNTAIN WOODS, J.P., **Ex-Mayor.**

ALDERMAN CHARLES C. BLORE.

COUNCILLOR H. E. EGERTON, J.P.

COUNCILLOR T. C. E. GOFF, J.P.

COUNCILLOR E. J. HORNIMAN,
L.C.C.

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

MR. HERBERT W PAUL.

COUNCILLOR F. W. PROCTER.

ALDERMAN T. J. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH.

MR. GEORGE WHITE.

COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.

Librarian and Clerk to the Committee.

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarians : A. DENTON AND C. O. BALCOMBE.

Chelsea Public Library.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1904-1905.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums submit the following report upon the work of the Library for the year ending 31st March, 1905.

In their last report it was stated that the issue of books was the highest recorded since the opening of the Library in 1891. This increase in the volume of the work has not been maintained, the statistical tables showing a decrease in all departments, which is in the main attributable to the fine weather during the year, especially as compared with the previous year.

The total number of volumes issued during the year was 198,257 as compared with 216,590 in the previous year, showing a decrease of 18,333. Although this is a very large decrease, yet the total issue of volumes is the highest of any year since the opening of the Library, the two previous years, 1902-4, alone excepted. It therefore may be taken that the past year's work is quite up to the average and represents the work of the Library under normal conditions.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued in this Department was 60,842 as against 64,766 the previous year, a decrease of 3,924. The decrease is mainly in the classes of Language, Social Science, Literature (Poetry, Drama, &c.), and Miscellaneous (Ency-

clopædias, volumes of Reviews, &c.), while increases are shown in the classes of Religion, Useful Arts, Fine Arts, and History. The decrease in the number of volumes issued in the Miscellaneous Class was partly brought about by less use being made of the "Encyclopædia Britannica" than was the case in the previous year, when prize competitions caused it to be much in request. So far as the actual number of persons using the Reference Library is concerned there is an increase. As the stock of books enlarges year by year, readers are enabled more readily to obtain the information they seek by getting a book or two directly upon a particular subject without having to search through a number of volumes, as was the case when the stock was more limited.

The total number of volumes allocated to this Department is now 16,885, an increase of 961 upon the previous year.

The number of volumes taken for class-use from this Department by Teachers and Lecturers of the South-Western Polytechnic was 386, principally in the subjects of Architecture, Greek Art, Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Chemistry, Geology and Mineralogy, Physics, and English Literature.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued in this Department was 116,653 as against 124,233 the previous year, showing a decrease of 7,580 and of 1953 when compared with the year 1902-3. More than half of this decrease is in light reading (Fiction and Children's Books). The only class in which there is an increase recorded is that of the Useful Arts (Technical Books).

The issue of tickets entitling to the use of this Department also shows a falling off of 333 as compared with the same period last year. The total number issued during the year was 2,775; of these 2,257 were Readers' Tickets, 417 Students' Tickets, and 101 Music Tickets. The number cancelled was 3,018; 2,458 being Readers' Tickets, 523 Students' Tickets, and 127 Music Tickets, leaving the total number now in force at 5,373. The Students' Tickets cancelled included 204 held by South-Western

Polytechnic Students non-resident in Chelsea, who not having rejoined the Polytechnic classes were ineligible to continue as borrowers. The number of these non-resident student borrowers is now 157, a net loss of 47 on the year. The tickets issued to these students are available for the Polytechnic session only, and not for two years as in the case of Chelsea residents.

The Committee have had notices, directing attention to the advantages of the Library, prepared and placed in the Workmen's Dwellings belonging to the Council, and in the various Chelsea Clubs. It has been found that there are many persons in Chelsea who do not know of the existence of the Library, and who are only too glad to make use of it when made aware of the facilities provided for obtaining books.

The number of volumes in the Lending Department is now 25,087, an increase of 1,217 on the year. The number of volumes worn out and withdrawn was 273, principally works of fiction. Of these 170 volumes were replaced and 103 were cancelled, the old copies being sent to the Workhouse for the use of the inmates.

The number of applications by circular and letter, for the return of overdue books, was 769.

BOOKS ADDED.

The Committee have of late endeavoured to strengthen the resources of the Library in several subjects. Architecture, Economics, Colonial History, especially of the American Colonies, India, Japan, and Early Voyages and Travels have been dealt with. The series of works by Balzac and Victor Hugo in the original have been completed. The demand for works in the French and Italian languages is well maintained, many of the readers using these books for study purposes. While the Library is kept well furnished with the more important new books as far as the funds allow, the older books of a standard nature are not neglected and are being acquired from time to time, with the result that readers frequently express their satisfaction at the usefulness of the institution.

Some important additions have been made to the Music Section of the Lending Department in the way of a small selection of the full scores of the works of the classical composers. It is considered that these will prove valuable for study purposes. A selection of standard chamber music for stringed instruments has also been added.

In 1894 the Libraries Commissioners had under consideration the question of providing books for the blind, and they found that the reading needs of blind people in Chelsea were fully met by the Home Teaching Society for the Blind. The Committee have had their attention called to the matter by the Incorporated National Lending Library for the Blind, and they find that the position has not changed since it was dealt with by the Commissioners.

CHARACTER OF THE READING.

The standard of reading continues to be very satisfactory. Upon the total issue of books during the year the percentage of prose fiction issued, apart from books for children, is 35, or if taken upon the issue of books for home reading alone is 60 per cent. This may appear to be somewhat high, but is not so when the full facts are taken into consideration; for example, on 1st June, A. B. borrowed Stirling's "The Hegelian System," renewed the time for reading it on 18th June, and returned it on 2nd July, thus giving two issues to the class "Philosophy." During precisely the same period C. D. took out sixteen novels, increasing the statistics in the class of "Prose Fiction" by that number. The proportion of fiction in the stock of books is 13 per cent., or 19 per cent. if the books for children are included.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

The attendance in the Reading Room is well maintained. Table 6 shows the result of a monthly counting, the day of the week

being varied each month. These figures give a daily average of 1,234 as against 1,254 last year. The highest attendance on a full working-day was 1,464 on Thursday, February 16th, and the lowest 1,089 on Saturday, April 16th. The total Sunday attendance was 17,570, or an average of 344 per Sunday, as against 349 last year. The attendance on the Bank Holidays continues small, the average during the year being 165 as against 156 last year. The Committee have had the question of opening on these days under consideration, but have deferred decision thereon for the present.

BOYS' READING ROOM.

The attendance in this room is more affected by the weather than is that in any other department of the institution. In bright weather little or no use is made of it, consequently the issues for the past year show a falling off of no less than 6,829 when compared with the previous year. The room was open on 278 evenings, inclusive of Sundays, and on 83 whole days, the total number of volumes issued being 20,762.

PADDINGTON AND CHELSEA FINANCIAL ADJUSTMENT SCHEME.

The Committee have given much attention to utilizing the capital sum of £2,566 received for public library purposes under this Scheme, and at the meeting of the Borough Council, held on 11th January, 1905, the following report and recommendations were submitted :—

The Public Libraries and Museums Committee submitted their acts and proceedings, as follows :—

Reporting that they have had under their consideration the best means of utilizing the capital sum of £2566 received in respect of public library purposes under the Boroughs of Paddington and Chelsea (Adjustment) Scheme of the London Government Act.

This money can only be used for some purpose in connection with capital expenditure upon the Library, either in the redemption of loans or for works of a permanent character in connection with the building.

The present mortgages of the Library rate are as follows :—

STATEMENT OF LOANS UNDER THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACT,
DECEMBER, 1904.

Purpose of Loan.	Amount Originally Borrowed.	For what Period.	Mode of Repayment.	Amount of Principal now Owing.	Rate of Interest.
(a) Purchase of Leasehold Interests, Library Site	£ 700	Years. 50	Annual Instalment of £ 14	£ 490	} 3½%
(b) Library Building	10,700	30	Annuity in half-yearly instalments of £290 covering principal and interest	6,886	
(c) Bookshelving Reference Library	1,200	15	Annual Instalment of £ 80	960	
	£12,600			£8,336	

The only loans that it is possible to deal with are (a) the Site and (c) the Bookshelving Loans. If the Site Loan of £490 is redeemed it would effect an average annual reduction of expenditure under this head for the next ten years of £29 8s. 8d. If the Bookshelving Loan of £960 be redeemed, it will, in a similar manner, allow of a reduction of £98 4s. per annum for the twelve years during which the loan has yet to run, so that, roughly speaking, £127 12s. 8d. will be set free.

The steady increase of the number of books added to the Library necessitates the completion, as far as possible, of the provision for book storage, which was allowed for in the architect's original design, but which had to be cut out owing to want of funds. The Committee, therefore, propose to extend the provision for books by adding a balcony-gallery to the Lending Library as originally designed, and by adapting a portion of the basement as a bookstore.

In their last annual report to the Council the Committee drew attention to the need for making greater provision for children. In speaking of the boys' room they said, "While a useful purpose is served in accustoming boys to use the Library, in encouraging the habit of reading, and in keeping them out of the streets, it is possible to develop this department of the Institution by providing children with an adequate and properly equipped room in which their preparation work might be done,

and by the provision of additional books of a more directly educational character." They propose to further complete the basement by providing extended accommodation for this purpose.

The estimated cost for these improvements on the basement will be :—

	£
Completion of the ceilings, walls, floors, provision of doorways, alterations, new lavatories, &c.	500
Alteration of heating pipes and apparatus	100
Bookcases, counters, tables, chairs, and other furniture, lighting, &c.	400
Improvement of staircase and approaches, tiling of walls, and extra door	50
	<u>£1050</u>

The estimated cost of providing the balcony-gallery and bookshelving in the Lending Library, including the shelving of a storeroom and the provision of a small lift in connection therewith, is £485.

If the scheme for transferring the children to the basement is carried out this would set free the present boys' room to be adapted to receive the Burgess and Yates Collections. The cost of this will be defrayed from the legacy left for the purpose by Mrs. Yates, of Penshurst.

The sum of £127 per annum which would be set free by the redemption of mortgages would provide for the extra supervision, lighting, and cleaning necessitated by the suggested improvements.

The proposed expenditure is as follows :—

	£
Redemption of Loans	1450
Provision of Gallery and Bookshelving, &c., in Lending Library	485
Completion of Basement and provision for Children's Rooms therein	1050
	<u>2985</u>
Amount received from Paddington	2566
	<u>£419</u>

Recommending :—

(a.) That the Council authorise an application to the Local Government Board and to the London County Council for their sanction to the redemption of the outstanding amounts of the Library Site Loan (£490), and of the Bookshelving Loan (£960), out of the capital sum received for public library purposes under the Paddington and Chelsea (Adjustment) Scheme.

(b.) That the Committee be authorised to retain the services of Mr. Leonard Stokes as architect, and to obtain tenders for carrying out the work of completing the basement of the Library, and providing therein children's rooms and bookstores, and for providing a balcony-gallery

and bookshelving in the Lending Library, and that the sanction of the Local Government Board be obtained to the necessary expenditure being defrayed out of the capital sum received for public library purposes under the Paddington and Chelsea (Adjustment) Scheme.

(c.) That the matter be referred to the Finance Committee, to bring up an estimate for carrying out these proposals.

At the meeting of the Council, held on 8th February, the Finance Committee submitted an estimate based upon these proposals, and this, with the recommendations of the Public Libraries Committee, was adopted by the Council. The subject is now receiving the attention of the Local Government Board, and the Committee hope to be in a position to proceed with the suggested improvements.

CATALOGUES.

Arrangements have been entered into with Messrs. Willis & Co., printers, whereby lists of new additions to the Library and of books upon subjects of passing interest can be regularly brought under the notice of readers. This is accomplished by issuing a "Quarterly List," and four of these lists were published during the year and distributed free of charge, the advertisements contained in them covering the cost of printing. Special reading lists upon Russia, Japan, Corea, Manchuria, and Tibet, were given in No. 1; upon the Fiscal Question in No. 2; and upon Honoré de Balzac in No. 4. These lists have been greatly appreciated, and the whole edition of 2000 copies of each issue exhausted within the quarter.

LOCAL COLLECTION.

Some interesting items have been added to this during the year. Among them is a manuscript autobiography of Edmund Howard, 1710-85. The writer was apprenticed to gardening in Chelsea in 1724, and became the caretaker of Beaufort House (Sir Thomas More's) when purchased by Sir Hans Sloane. He describes this house and its demolition which he superintended.



RIVER WALL AND GATE TO THE PHYSIC GARDEN, 1870, SHOWING THE OLD CEDAR REFERRED TO
IN THIS REPORT. FROM A WOODCUT IN THE LIBRARY.

He also took charge of the removal of Sir Hans Sloane's collections from Bloomsbury to Chelsea, these collections, it will be remembered, being afterwards removed from Chelsea to Bloomsbury, to become the nucleus of the present British Museum. After leaving Sir Hans Sloane's service he became a clockmaker, and made and put up the clock which gave the name to the present "Clock House," in the King's Road. He also made the clock for Chelsea Old Church, in 1761, concerning which Messrs. Dent & Co., of the Strand, write under date 23rd February, 1905, saying it is a fine old clock, in excellent condition, and they see no reason why it should not run another hundred years. The document is a quaint one and a valuable addition to the collection. The Library is rightly becoming the repository for the safe custody and proper care of documents bearing on Chelsea history. Here they can be catalogued and seen under proper supervision, and in the case of valuable documents, transcripts are made for ordinary reference.

An etching of Cheyne Walk, showing No. 74, where Whistler died on the 17th July, 1903, and another of Carlyle's House, Cheyne Row, both signed proofs, were received as a gift from the artist, Mr. W. W. Burgess, R.E. Alderman T. J. Robinson presented a large framed photograph, on opal, of the late Rev. Gerald Blunt, who was Rector of Chelsea, 1860-1902.

By means of the Chelsea Commemoration Fund, engraved portraits have been purchased of George Villiers, Duke of Buckingham, to whom Charles I. granted Sir Thomas More's house in 1627, when it became known as Buckingham House; of John Vaughan, Earl of Carbery, who built for his residence the house afterwards known as Gough House, and now forming part of the Victoria Hospital for Children; of William, first Earl Cadogan; and of General Sir David Dundas, who was Governor of Chelsea Hospital, 1804-20.

When the last surviving of the four cedars of Lebanon planted in the Chelsea Physic Garden in 1623, was taken down early in 1904, two large pieces of it were obtained from the Curator of the Gardens with a view to making picture frames or other

souvenirs out of them. It may be interesting to state that two of the four trees were cut down in 1771 in a decayed state, and the third lasted until 1853, when it was blown down.

GIFTS OF BOOKS AND PICTURES.

Among other gifts received during the year was a sheet of pencil sketches (drawing studies) by Queen Victoria, when Princess, presented by Mr. Herbert P. Horne, for the Queen Victoria Gallery.

The copy of Arber's reprint of More's "Utopia" from which the Kelmscott Press edition was set up, containing William Morris's instructions to the printer pencilled therein, and a volume of the Kelmscott Press proof sheets of the work with Morris's corrections, were received as a gift from Mrs. Proctor, of Oxshott, Surrey, in memory of William Morris and of her son, Robert Proctor, of the British Museum, whose untimely loss in the Tyrol in the autumn of 1903, was so greatly deplored, especially by bibliographers. With the completed Kelmscott Press "Utopia" already possessed by the Library this gift makes a most interesting series, and supplements the editions of this work which the late Alfred Cock, Q.C., presented to the Library.

The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, M.P., continues to favour the Library with regular gifts of books and parliamentary papers, as he has done since the establishment of the Institution in 1887. Other parliamentary papers likely to prove of permanent service have been obtained from H.M. Stationery Office, upon application made from time to time; these are supplied and delivered free to the Library. Mr. Sidney Low presented 152 miscellaneous books. Lady Meux sent a copy of her privately-printed edition of "The Book of Paradise," by Palladius and others, from the Syraic, by E. A. Wallis Budge (2 vols.). Mr. E. J. Horniman gave a number of Whistler items, including the "Ten o'clock." From Mr. C. R. Ashbee was received "The Masque of the Edwards of England," printed in colour at the Essex House Press. Mr. A. C. Mead sent a number of useful books, mostly upon Essex topography and the Greek Church. The Rt. Hon.

Leonard H. Courtney has presented a number of volumes, including a set of the Royal Academy Exhibition Catalogues, complete from 1853 to 1904. Prof. J. Westlake, K.C., sent several volumes to complete the Library set of "The Journal of Hellenic Studies," and proposes to send the subsequent parts as issued. Mrs. Arnold, of Carlyle Square, presented 22 selected volumes in accordance with the wish of her husband, the late W. T. Arnold, grandson of Dr. Arnold of Rugby. Dr. B. E. Martin gave a number of engravings and photographs for the proposed Children's Room. In all 714 volumes were added to the Library during the year by gift, the following being a list of the donors to whom the Committee have expressed their thanks :--

The Amalgamated Press, Ltd.; the late Mr. W. T. Arnold (Bequest); Mrs. W. T. Arnold; Mr. C. R. Ashbee; Mrs. E. L. Atkey; The Ven. Archdeacon Bevan, Rector of Chelsea; Mr. Reginald Blunt; Bognor Urban District Council; British and Foreign School Society; British College of Physical Education; British Museum Trustees; British South Africa Co.; Brooklyn Institute, U.S.A.; Mr. Sidney Brooks; Messrs. Brown and Phillips; Messrs. T. B. Browne, Ltd.; Bureau of Information, Victoria, B.C.; Council of the Calcutta Imperial Library; Canadian Government (Department of Agriculture, Department of the Interior, and the Geological Survey Department); Mr. George Carter; Chelsea Board of Guardians; Chelsea Borough Council; Trustees of the Chelsea Public Library, U.S.A.; Mr. E. F. Chidell; Hon. J. H. Choate; City and Guilds of London Institute; Co-Operative Union, Ltd.; Rt. Hon. L. H. Courtney; Miss A. M. Cust; Dr. R. N. Cust, J.P.; Madame Jean Delaire; Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, M.P.; Miss P. Doncaster; Mr. F. Druce; Mr. H. E. Egerton, J.P.; Miss Mary C. Farr; the Dowager Lady Farrer; Hon. Mrs. Fraser; Dr. Alfred C. Fryer; Miss E. Fuge; Messrs. Gordon and Gotch; Mr. Charles Hamilton; Messrs. Harper and Bros.; Harvard College, U.S.A.; Mr. R. Herring; Mr. W. Hill; Mr. D. Hipwell; H.M. Stationery Office; Miss Joanne B. Horner; Mr. E. J. Horniman, L.C.C.;

Mr. C. J. Hort ; Howard Association ; 'Tourists' Information Dept., Isle of Man ; the Executors of Mr. David Kay ; Mr. Alex. Kinloch ; Messrs. C. and E. Layton ; London City Corporation ; London County Council ; London County Council School of Photo-Engraving and Lithography ; London Directory Co., Ltd. ; London School Board ; London School of Economics ; Mr. Sidney J. Low ; Mr. S. R. Lysaght ; Mrs. Victor Maslin ; Messrs. Mather and Crowther ; Mr. Geo. Mathieson ; Mr. A. C. Mead ; Mr. Cranstoun Metcalfe ; Messrs. Methuen & Co. ; Metropolitan Asylums Board ; Lady Meux ; Mr. John Middleton ; Messrs. Mitchell and Co. ; Dr. J. Morgan-de-Groot ; Mr. Felix Moscheles ; National Union of Teachers ; Mr. J. Neumeier ; Agent-General for New South Wales ; Agent-General for New Zealand ; Rev. D. Nickerson ; Messrs. Obach & Co. ; Mr. C. F. Palmer ; Messrs. J. and J. Paton ; Mr. H. W. Paul ; Messrs. W. Perry and Co., Ltd. ; Mr. S. R. Pollard ; Rational Association ; Religious Tract Society ; Mr. C. E. Parker Rhodes ; Mr. Grant Richards ; Mr. Ha Rollo ; Royal Colonial Institute ; Royal National Lifeboat Institution ; the Russian Government ; Mr. Sidney Skinner ; Society of Accountants and Auditors ; Agent-General for South Australia ; the Governing Body of the South-Western Polytechnic ; Miss Emma E. Spencer ; Stubbs' Publishing Co. ; Mr. C. W. Sutton ; the Agent-General for Tasmania ; Mrs. W. Trafford-Taunton ; Trinity College of Music, London ; Mr. John Tullis ; Mr. and Mrs. Peveril Turnbull ; Unionist Free Food League ; University Tutorial Press ; Agent-General for Western Australia ; Prof. J. Westlake, K.C. ; Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson. Annual reports have been received from a number of British and American public libraries.

NEWSPAPERS, &C. PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—

Accountant, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Animals' Guardian, Anti-Slavery Reporter, Arts and Crafts, Athenæum, Automobile Review, Bird Notes and News, Bric-a-Brac, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British



A. Harvey Del.

Published according to Act of Parliament.

J. M. W. Turner Del.

View of Chelsea.

View of the Village de Chelsea.

London Printed and Published by W. Phillips, Church Lane, St. Robert Williams, 38, Cornhill.

FROM A PRINT, NUMBER 64 IN THE QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY.

Architect, British Australasian, Broad Arrow, Brotherhood, Buddhism, Business Life, Canadian Gazette, Charity Organization Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Child's Guardian, Christian, Christian Globe, Church Family Newspaper, Church of England League Gazette, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerk of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, Cowkeeper and Dairyman's Journal, Drapers' Record, Educational Review, Educational Times, Electrical Review, Englishwoman's Review, Epicure, Estates Gazette, Ethics, Everyday Electricity, Extensionist, Financial Reformer, Fireman, Food and Cookery, Free Life, Free Russia, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Herald of Health, Hospital, House Beautiful, Humanitarian, Incorporated Accountants Journal, Indian Opinion, Indicator, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Labour Co-Partnership, Labour Gazette, Land and Water, Laundry Journal, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Journal, London Argus, London Crusader, London Technical Education Gazette, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Manual Training Teacher, Market, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Mining Market Record, Modern Society, Musical Herald, Musical News, Musicians' Report and Journal, Natal Mercury, National Service Journal, Nature Notes, New Africa, New Century Path, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Park Chapel (Chelsea) Magazine, Patents, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Picture Post-Card Magazine, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Printer's Register, Printseller and Collector, Prohibitionist, Public Health Journal, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, St. Mark's College Magazine, Scraps, South Africa, State Correspondent, Stone Trades Journal, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Timber Trades Journal, Tongues of Fire, Tool and Machinery Register, Travel, Tuberculosis, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian Messenger, Vulcan, Young Journalist and Author, Zoophilist.

Besides the above, the following persons presented the periodicals named :—

Dr. A. Hinckes Bird, British Medical Journal. Mr. George Carter, Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. E. Chambers, Bible Society Monthly Reporter, Gleanings for the Young. Chelsea Temperance Society, Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, The English Churchman. Professor Westlake, K.C., Economic Journal.

The Chelsea Borough Council, Chelsea Board of Guardians, and London County Council, have sent their Minutes of Proceedings as issued, and the railway companies supplied their time tables.

DEATH OF ALDERMAN C. C. BLORE.

The Committee, with deep regret, record the loss of an honoured and most useful colleague by the death of Alderman Charles C. Blore, on 2nd March, 1905. He was elected a Commissioner for Public Libraries in June, 1891, and became Chairman of its Finance Committee in July, 1892. At the transfer of the Library to the Borough Council under the London Government Act, Alderman Blore was elected a member of the Public Libraries Committee, and he also continued to serve as Chairman of its Finance Sub-Committee. He took a warm interest in the welfare of the institution, and was constant in attendance at meetings of the Committees.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—284		SUNDAYS. Days open—51.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	317	1	72	1
Religion	1634	6	126	3
Sociology	4872	17	240	5
Language	4628	17	640	13
Science	2650	9	117	2
Useful Arts	4570	16	544	11
Fine Arts	4817	17	267	5
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5156	18	315	6
History, Biography, Travels	19207	67	964	19
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	8853	31	853	16
TOTAL.....	56,704	199	4138	81

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—282.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	866	3
Religion ..	1481	5
Sociology ..	1743	6
Language ..	354	1
Science	2107	7
Useful Arts	2785	10
Fine Arts	4101	15
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5210	18
History, Biography, Travels	11247	40
Books for Children	13906	49
Prose Fiction	70168	249
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.) ...	2685	10
TOTAL.....	116,653	413

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5373.

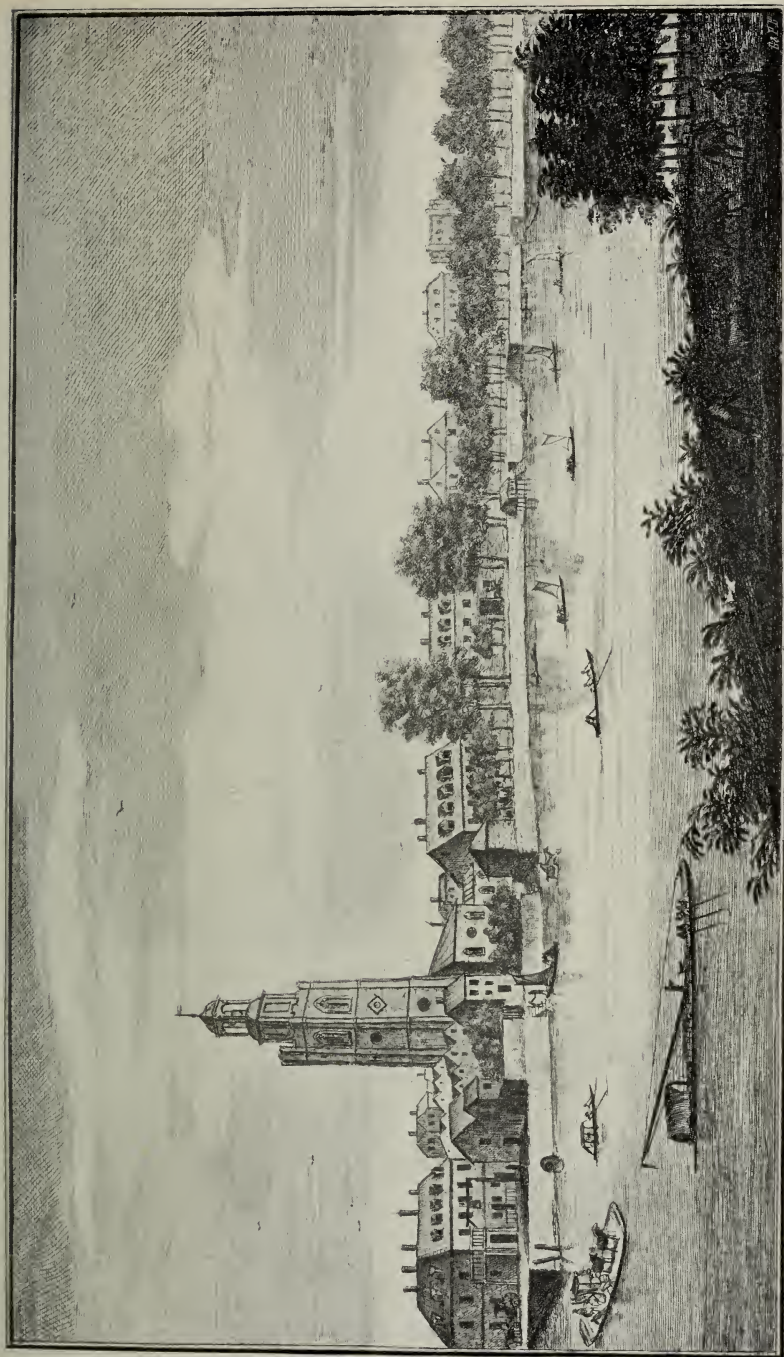
BOYS' ROOM.

TABLE 3, SHOWING THE VOLUMES ISSUED DURING THE YEAR.

WEEK DAYS.			SUNDAYS.		Total.
Month.	Days open.	Volumes issued.	Days open.	Volumes issued.	
1904					
April	15 evenings, 10 days	1078	4	375	1453
May	21 " 5 "	780	5	260	1040
June	22 " 4 "	587	4	201	788
July	15 " 11 "	762	5	185	947
August	11 " 15 "	1122	4	311	1433
September	22 " 4 "	1608	4	407	2015
October	21 " 5 "	1843	5	663	2506
November	22 " 4 "	1856	4	499	2355
December	17 " 9 "	1806	3	307	2113
1905					
January	18 " 8 "	1824	5	379	2203
February	20 " 4 "	1429	4	485	1914
March	23 " 4 "	1602	4	393	1995
TOTAL	227 evenings, 83 days	16,297	51	4465	20,762

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Total.	Per cent.
Philosophy	389	866	1255	63
Religion	1760	1481	3241	164
Sociology	5112	1743	6855	346
Language	5268	354	5622	284
Science	2767	2107	4874	246
Useful Arts	5114	2785	7899	398
Fine Arts	5084	4101	9185	463
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5471	5210	10681	539
History, Biography, Travels	20171	11247	31418	1585
Books for Children .....	...	13906	13906	701
Books in Boys' Room .....	...	...	20762	1047
Prose Fiction .....	...	70168	70168	3539
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Encyclopedias, &c.)	9706	2685	12391	625
TOTAL	60,842	116,653	198,257	100



CHELSEA OLD CHURCH AND THE FERRY IN, 1742. FROM AN ENGRAVING BY PREIST, NUMBER 10 IN THE QUEEN VICTORIA GALLERY.

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	...	...	...	...	45,905
1891-92	...	...	...	...	157,693
1892-93	...	...	...	...	168,623
1893-94	...	...	...	...	179,456
1894-95	...	...	...	...	180,016
1895-96	...	...	...	...	170,834
1896-97	...	...	...	...	171,298
1897-98	...	...	...	...	168,853
1898-99	...	...	...	...	171,585
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	...	...	...	...	159,892
1901-2	...	...	...	...	184,656
1902-3	...	...	...	...	211,611
1903-4	...	...	...	...	216,590
1904-5	...	...	...	...	198,257
TOTAL	...	...	...	...	<u>2,555,791</u>

TABLE 6, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING THE READING ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

1904	Total.
Saturday, April 16th (9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	1089
Monday, May 9th (" ")	1306
Tuesday, June 28th (" ")	1160
Wednesday, July 27th (9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	632
Thursday, August 25th (9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	1144
Friday, September 16th (" ")	1420
Saturday, October 15th (" ")	1186
Monday, November 21st (" ")	1365
Tuesday, December 14th (" ")	1246
1905	
Wednesday, January 25th (9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	875
Thursday, February 16th (9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	1464
Friday, March 10th (" ")	1309

BANK HOLIDAYS.

Easter Monday, April 4th	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	233
Whit Monday, May 23rd	(" ")	153
First Monday in August, August 1st	(" ")	176
Boxing Day, December 26th	(" ")	99

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

The Reading Rooms were open on 51 Sundays, the total attendance being 17,570, giving an average of 344 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.).

TABLE 7, SHOWING THE ADDITIONS TO, AND CLASSIFICATION OF, THE STOCK OF BOOKS.

CLASS.	Vols. in Library. 31st Mar., 1904.	Vols. in Library. 31st Mar., 1905.	Increase.
Philosophy	624	655	31
Religion	2378	2464	86
Sociology	2980	3194	214
Language	436	453	17
Science	2177	2281	104
Useful Arts	2069	2197	128
Fine Arts	2598	2802	204
Literature	4032	4292	260
History, Biography, Travels	11508	12248	740
Books for Children	2410	2452	42
Prose Fiction	5486	5691	205
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.).....	3592	3747	155
TOTAL.....	40,290	42,476	2,186

TABLE 8, SHOWING THE APPORTIONMENT OF THE BOOKS TO DEPARTMENTS.

	31st Mar., 1904.	31st Mar., 1905.	Increase.
Lending Department	23,870	25,087	1217
Reference Department	15,924	16,885	961
Boys' Room	496	504	8
TOTAL.....	40,290	42,476	2,186

Memoranda.



Population of the Borough of Chelsea, Census, 1901	73,842
Estimated population, 1904	74,329
Area of the Borough	659'6 acres.
Rateable Value of the Borough	£852,251.
Public Libraries Acts adopted	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall ..	7th Nov., 1887.
Librarian appointed	Nov., 1887.
The Earl Cadogan gave the freehold of a site for the Library and £350 for the purchase of technical books	Feb., 1888.
Charity Commissioners received Deputation orga- nized by the Libraries Commissioners asking for the establishment of the South-Western Polytechnic ... ..	...30th April, 1888.
Reply received from the Charity Commissioners agreeing to the establishment of the Poly- technic ... ..	... 10th May, 1888.
The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., gave £500 for the purchase of books	May, 1888.
Memorial Stone of the Library laid by the Countess Cadogan	8th Feb., 1890.
Library opened by the Earl Cadogan	21st Jan., 1891.
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened	4th Dec., 1899.
Public Libraries Commissioners' duties trans- ferred to the Boroughs of Chelsea and Pad- dington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington	1st April, 1901.
Number of Volumes in the Library	42,476.
Number of Volumes issued 1904-5	198,257.
Total number issued since opening	2,555,791.

METROPOLITAN BOR

FINANCIAL

Sums received and expended

RECEIPTS.					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries										
Account)					3,350	0	0			
Fines and Penalties					72	9	10½			
Other Receipts :—										
Sale of catalogues, tickets, &c. ...					37	9	0½			
Bank interest					64	0	10			
								3,523	19	9
Total Receipts								3,523	19	9
Balance (being expenditure in excess of										
income)								24	4	11

£3,548 4 8

CHELSEA COMMEMORA

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1903-4	45	8	10

£45 8 10

PADDINGTON AND CHELSEA CAPITAL

Received from the Paddington Borough Council ...	£2,566	0	0
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BEQUEST OF MRS.

Received from the Executors	£100	0	0
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OUGH OF CHELSEA.

STATEMENT.

under the Public Libraries Acts.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1903-4				42	12	8½
Buildings, Repairs and Maintenance :—						
Building and furniture repairs and improvements	65	1	0½			
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting... ..	252	11	0½			
Rates and taxes, insurance	38	5	9			
				355	17	10
Books, Newspapers, &c.	617	5	2½			
Bookbinding... ..	110	15	2			
				728	0	4½
Salaries of Officers and Assistants				1,049	14	6
Establishment charges, viz :—						
Stationery and printing	27	15	6			
Carriage, postage, &c.	18	4	1			
				45	19	7
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans :						
Principal repaid :						
To the London County Council	429	1	1			
Interest, including Income Tax :—						
To the London County Council	296	18	7			
				725	19	8
Payment to Paddington Borough Council under Financial Adjustment Scheme				600	0	0
Total Expenditure				£3,548	4	8

TION (1837-1897) FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Purchase of Chelsea Prints	3	4	0
Balance	42	4	10
	£45	8	10

(ADJUSTMENT) SCHEME. ACCOUNT.

Balance in hand... ..	£2,566	0	0
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HENRIETTA YATES.

Balance in hand	£100	0	0
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J. HENRY QUINN,
Clerk to the Public Libraries Committee.

STATEMENT AS TO LOANS UNDER THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACTS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1905.

Purpose of loan.	Amount of loan sanctioned.	Date of Sanction.	Amount originally borrowed.	Name of lender.	Date of original borrowing.	For what period.	Mode of repayment, whether by annuity or otherwise.	Amount of principal owing at the commencement of the year.	Principal repaid during the year.	Amount of interest paid during the year.	Amount of principal owing at the end of the year.	Rate of interest.
Purchase of leasehold interests, Library site	£ 700	1st Feb., 1890	£ 700	London County Council	11th March, 1890	Yrs. 50	Annual instalments of £14	£ s. d. 504 0 0	£ s. d. 14 0 0	£ s. d. 17 12 8	£ s. d. 490 0 0	Per ann. 3½ %
Library building	10,750	Do.	10,700	Do.	Do.	30	Annuity in Half-yearly instalments of £290 os. 6d. covering principal and interest.	7052 6 6	335 1 1	244 19 11	6717 5 5	Do.
Bookshelving, Reference Library	1,200	25th April, 1901	1,200	Do.	11th Oct., 1901	15	Annual instalments of £80	1040 0 0	80 0 0	34 6 0	960 0 0	Do.
TOTALS	£12,650		£12,600					£8596 6 6	429 1 1	296 18 7	8167 5 5	

METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE
FOR
PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1906.

LONDON:
PRINTED BY G. SHIELD, LANCELOT PLACE, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.
—
MAY, 1906.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums, 1905-6.

COUNCILLOR DAVID H. HODGE, **Chairman.**

COUNCILLOR W. J. MULVEY, J.P., **Mayor.**

COUNCILLOR JAMES JEFFERY, J.P., L.C.C. } **Ex-Mayors.**
COUNCILLOR W. FOUNTAIN WOODS.

COUNCILLOR H. E. EGERTON, J.P.
(to December, 1905).

COUNCILLOR T. C. E. GOFF, J.P.

COUNCILLOR E. J. HORNIMAN,
M.P., L.C.C.

COUNCILLOR E. L. MEINERTZ-
HAGEN, J.P. *(from March, 1906).*

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

MR. HERBERT W. PAUL, M.P.

COUNCILLOR F. W. PROCTER.

ALDERMAN T. J. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH.

MR. GEORGE WHITE.

COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.

Librarian and Clerk to the Committee.

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarians: A. DENTON AND C. O. BALCOMBE.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Public Library.

NINETEENTH ANNUAL REPORT, 1905-1906.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums present their Report as follows upon the work of the Institution for the year ending 31st March, 1906.

The total issue of books in all Departments was 208,188, as against 198,257 last year. This increase, however, is wholly due to the opening of the Children's Rooms, referred to hereafter.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of books issued in this Department was 56,383, a decrease, when compared with the previous year, of 4,459 volumes. This decrease is mainly in the Miscellaneous Class, consisting of encyclopædias and general works, though it is spread over other classes, with the exceptions of Philosophy, Science, and Fine Arts, in which there are increases recorded of 11, 638, and 210 respectively.

Although there is a falling off in the actual number of volumes issued, there is no diminution in the number of students using the room. The use of the Department is open to all comers and is not confined to Chelsea residents only. It is frequently noticed that persons outside the Borough will engage in a regular course of reading extending over a considerable period until they have

exhausted the books upon our shelves dealing with the subjects in which they are interested. As a recent example of this tribute to the value of our collection in this Department it may be stated that a student from a district outside London visited the room every day for several weeks in succession, using the books upon Geology, Palæontology, and Botany, and having exhausted our stock or completed his study has ceased to come. On the other hand, many Chelsea students come for a specific book, and others, again, use the room as a study, bringing their own books, and make only an occasional reference to our shelves. Those who reside in the neighbourhood soon become familiar with the contents of the Library and are thus enabled to obtain the information they need without adding much to the statistics of issue.

Less use has been made of this Department than formerly by the teachers and lecturers of the South-Western Polytechnic, who took out only 151 volumes for use in the Institute as compared with 386 last year. This probably is to be attributed to the fact that the Governing Body of the Institute is gradually forming a library for the exclusive use of students and teachers, although every facility has been given by the late Commissioners and the present Committee to meet the needs of the Polytechnic students.

The Authorities of Merton College, Oxford, have entrusted to the Library the care of a selection of ninety-five mediæval rolls from their muniments, some dating from the reign of Edward I. (1275), and three volumes of MS. collections relating to the history of Merton College, the earliest of the Oxford Colleges, and its founder, Walter de Merton, for the use of Mr. A. F. Leach, of Chelsea, for purposes of research work into the history of schools and colleges. This action on the part of the Authorities of Merton College points out a possibility of usefulness whereby such institutions as a well-regulated Public Library may be the means of bringing the valuable stores of records and literary material accumulated at distant centres into direct communication with serious students who by circumstances of duty, time, and space would otherwise be shut out from access to them.

The total number of volumes in the Reference Department is now 17,679, an increase of 794 during the year.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

It is satisfactory to find that the falling off in the Reference Department has been compensated for by the increased use made of the Lending Library, the issue of 120,970 volumes for the year being better by 4,317 than that of the previous year. This increase has been in all classes except Philosophy and Sociology. It is worth noting that the percentage of Fiction issued is still diminishing, it being 34·23 as against 35·39 last year.

The number of new tickets, including renewals, for this Department issued during the year was 2,917, consisting of 2,392 Readers' Tickets, 413 Students' Tickets, and 112 Music Tickets. The number cancelled upon expiration of the time for which they were issued and for all other reasons was 2,887, made up of 2,347 Readers' Tickets, 420 Students' Tickets, and 120 Music Tickets, this leaving the present number in force at 5,403, or a net increase of 30. Of the Students' Tickets issued during the year 179 were for students of the South-Western Polytechnic not residing in Chelsea.

The number of volumes in the Lending Department is 25,845, an increase of 758 volumes during the year. The number of volumes worn out and withdrawn was 182, principally popular works of fiction; of these 91 were replaced with new copies and 91 were cancelled in the stock-book, the old copies being sent to the Workhouse for the use of the inmates as usual. The Public Health Officers, under the arrangement made with the Public Health Committee for the safety and assurance of the public, destroyed 16 books, of which 7 were replaced and 9 cancelled. Five books of small value were lost to the Library by the disappearance of the borrowers and their guarantors; 18 others were lost and paid for by the borrowers. The number of applications made by post for the return of overdue books was 818, and 16 had to be specially sent for.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

This Room, in which the newspapers, periodicals and magazines are placed, continues popular. A careful count is made of the number of persons entering the Room on one day in each month, the days of the week being taken in succession. By this means a good idea is obtained of the use made of the Room. The result is shown in Table 6, where it is seen that the number varies from 670 on a Wednesday in July, to 1290 on a Friday in March. The Reading Rooms are closed from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Wednesdays for special cleaning; apart from this, they are closed only on two days in the year, viz., Good Friday and Christmas Day. On Friday the 16th March last, the actual number of persons entering the Library was 1938; of these 1290 used the Reading Rooms, 410 came to the Lending Library for books, and 238 children used the Children's Rooms. Taking an average from the monthly count of those using the Reading Rooms, the daily average throughout the year is 1071, representing a total number of 328,797 visits paid.

On Sundays the Reading Rooms are open from 3 to 9 p.m. There has been a slight falling off in numbers; in fact, the Sunday attendance when compared with that of week-days, cannot be considered very satisfactory. The total number of persons attending on the 51 Sundays on which the Room was open was 16,855, giving a daily average of 330, or 14 less per Sunday than in the previous year, the number varying from 239 on July 9th to 417 on April 30th.

The attendance on the four Bank Holidays remains normal and is not encouraging, the total being 673, or an average of 168 per day from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; last year the average was 165.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

The sanction of the Borough Council and the Local Government Board having been obtained for the disposal of the capital sum of £2,566 received from Paddington, under the Paddington and Chelsea Financial Adjustment Scheme, as set out in detail in the last annual report of the Committee, plans and specifi-



IN ONE OF THE NEW CHILDREN'S READING ROOMS.

cations for Children's Rooms and other improvements were prepared by Mr. Leonard Stokes, Architect. The work was thrown open to public tender, and that of Messrs. J. and W. Drake, of Hammersmith, was accepted for the sum of £1,136. The rooms were completed and opened on the 20th December, 1905. Two of the six divisions into which the basement is divided were taken for the purpose of these Children's Rooms, and they have a separate entrance in Manresa Road. The first room is set apart as a Reading Room, and is furnished with Globe-Wernicke book-cases, forming a dado to the height of 4 ft. 6 in., the wall above being match-boarded and prepared for framed pictures. The second room, which communicates with the Reading Room, was intended for "talks to the children" and lantern lectures, with a view to guiding the reading. The walls of the second room and of the passages from the street have a plain green tile dado, and the floors of both rooms are of a patent composition known as "Eubocolith." Since the date of opening, the second room has been mainly used by children who come to do their school preparation work, and in this respect is a most valuable feature.

From the day of opening these rooms have proved exceedingly popular, and have attracted children of both sexes and of all ages up to 15. It has not been unusual for the room to be visited by over 300 children in the course of an evening (5.30 to 9), the greatest number recorded being 406 on Friday, 5th January, 1906. The accommodation has been taxed to its utmost, and at times it has been impossible to admit all who wished to come in. During the period from the 20th December 1905, to 31st March, 1906, 24,806 books were issued, a daily average of 248, and the total attendance recorded was 19,989, a daily average of 199. This shows a great increase in comparison with the former Boys' Room, from which the girls were excluded, as during the whole of the year 1904-5, the number of volumes issued was 20,762.

Between the time of commencing the alterations to the Boys' Room and the opening of the new Children's Room, viz., from 19th September to 19th December, no accommodation could be

provided for children. The issues in the old Boys' Room from April 1st to September 19th aforesaid numbered 6,029, which, when added to the issues in the new Children's Room, make a total for the year of 30,835.

The books specially provided for this Room number 817, and have been carefully selected. Of these rather more than a third consist of educational works of an attractive character intended to be useful to the young people in their studies, the remainder being story books of a healthy tone and a few volumes of children's magazines.

In order to furnish some definite information as to the work being done, the following details were taken on Thursday, March 15th, at 6.45 p.m. The total number of children present was 84; of these 51 (30 girls and 21 boys) were reading the books provided and 33 (19 girls and 14 boys) were occupied with homework. The children came mostly from the western part of Chelsea, and attended eleven different schools.

After allowing for the novelty of the new departure there can be no doubt that more useful work will be accomplished in dealing with and helping the children than was possible in the old Boys' Room. A satisfactory feature has been the number of poor children attracted to the Room, where they acquire the habit of reading besides making good use of the opportunity afforded them for preparing their school lessons under excellent conditions.

The present custom of providing libraries in the schools may be good enough as far as it goes, but it is when the boys and girls leave school that their reading requires to be continued, and this can be better brought about by the Public Library getting the children into the habit of making use of it as an auxiliary to their studies and for general reading while at school. When the children leave school their connection with the School Library ceases and probably the reading habit is broken, while if the boy or girl is encouraged to use the Library during the period of attendance at school though the connection with the school be broken the use of the Library is continuous.

This opening of Reading Rooms for children in no way affects the issues of books to them for home reading, which have improved during the year. There is no age limit to the use of the Lending Department.

VISITS OF SCHOOLS.

Upon the recommendation of H.M. Inspector of Schools for the district (E. T. Campagnac, Esq.) several parties of children visited the Library in school hours as part of their work, arrangements being made beforehand by the Teachers and at their request. The Librarian received the children and pointed out the most interesting features of the Institution, especially the portraits of historical and literary celebrities of national importance connected with Chelsea and pictures of the houses they lived in, exhibited in the Queen Victoria Gallery. The advantages of using the Library were also emphasised, and no doubt these visits have proved useful to the Schools and the Library, and they certainly gave pleasure to the children. The Schools from which the children came were Park Walk (63 children), Cook's Ground (51 children), and Everington Street, Fulham (18 children).

Besides these, parties have visited the Library from the Brown-ing Settlement, Walworth, and the Women's Diocesan Association. Several provincial Libraries Committees and representatives from continental towns have inspected the building and methods of working.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION AND THE HOME READING UNION.

In October, the Committee received a communication from the Board of Education directing attention to the aims and methods of the National Home Reading Union, and recommending the co-operation of Public Library Authorities with the Union. The Board suggested that the Committees should become subscribers to the Union in order to receive its publications; might aid the work of the Union by providing books recommended in its Reading Lists, especially the more expensive volumes; and might group readers

in Reading Circles, and afford them accommodation on the Library premises. The Committee had already been subscribers to the Union from October, 1904, and they have provided the books recommended in the Reading Lists from time to time. If Reading Circles are formed in Chelsea, the Committee are prepared to consider the question of finding accommodation for them as part of the work of the Institution.

In their communication the Board of Education also alluded to the fact that the University Extension movement depends for a considerable measure of its success upon the local Libraries which are open to the public. The Committee have also in this case done all they can to help by providing the books recommended by the various lecturers since the time when the Local Centre of the University Extension Society was first established in Chelsea in 1888.

It will thus be seen that the Committee have been fully alive to the educational value of the Institution under their charge and endeavour to further it by all means in their power consistent with the limitations of the Public Libraries Acts and the funds at their disposal.

CATALOGUES.

Two special catalogues were prepared and published during the year,—viz., a “Catalogue of Music and Musical Literature” and a “Catalogue of Books for Children in the Lending Library.” The Music Catalogue of 28 pages contains a classified list of the classical and standard vocal and instrumental music in the Lending Library, works upon the history and theory of music, and biographies of musicians, and is sold at the price of 2d. per copy. The Children’s Catalogue contains 64 pages, and in addition to the story books for children, gives the titles of the most suitable books in all classes of literature likely to interest boys and girls, such as Natural History and other Sciences; History, Geography, Voyages and Travels; Biography; Drawing and Painting; Engineering; Handicrafts; Games, Sports and Pastimes. To bring this within

the reach of children of all classes it is sold at a nominal price of 1d.

The regular issue of the "Quarterly Lists" has been continued, and they are greatly appreciated. The whole edition of two thousand copies per quarter is always exhausted. Besides the new books, the "Quarterly Lists" have contained during the year special detailed reading lists upon Victor Hugo, Electricity and its Applications, Book-keeping and Accounting, and Photography. In No. 7 was also given a descriptive detailed catalogue of the relics of the poet John Keats, belonging to the Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, M.P., which have been deposited by him in the Library since its opening in 1891; and No. 8 contained a catalogue of ninety-eight drawings and etchings of Old Chelsea, by Mr. Walter W. Burgess, from sketches executed between the years 1869 and 1904. Arrangements have been made with the printers to continue the lists for another two years.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS.

Further improvements carried out, in addition to those referred to under the paragraph relating to the Children's Rooms, were the completion of the remainder of the Basement as book stores, the provision of staff lavatory accommodation, and the erection of a balcony gallery and bridge in the Lending Library to hold bookshelves for the steadily increasing stock of books.

In consequence of the congested state of the Queen Victoria Gallery, the former Boys' Room has been converted into a second gallery in which to exhibit local prints and drawings. The entire series of drawings of Old Chelsea by Mr. W. W. Burgess, has been brought together from various parts of the building, and arranged in topographical order. The cost of adapting the Room as a Picture Gallery will be defrayed out of the legacy of Mrs. Henrietta Yates.

REDEMPTION OF LOANS.

The Council and Local Government Board having sanctioned the redemption of the outstanding amounts of the loans for the

Library Site, £490, and the Reference Library Bookshelving, £880, out of the capital sum above referred to, these balances were repaid to the London County Council in July, together with the sum of £13 charged by the County Council for loss of interest owing to the redemption. The repayment of the remaining loan for the Library Building (£6370), and the annual payment to Paddington under the Adjustment Scheme represent a fixed annual first charge of £880 upon the Library rate.

CHANGES IN THE COMMITTEE.

Councillor W. J. Mulvey, now Mayor, was elected in April, 1905, by the Council to the vacancy caused by the death of Alderman C. C. Blore, and Councillor E. L. Meinertzhagen, J.P., was appointed, in March last, in the place of Councillor H. E. Egerton, J.P., who resigned in December, upon his appointment as Beit Professor of Colonial History at Oxford. Mr. Egerton was elected to the Committee in 1901 and has rendered most valuable service, especially in the selection of books.

LOCAL COLLECTION.

Some documents of unusual interest relating to the Lawrence family have been obtained by purchase. One is an autograph sealed warrant from Richard Putto, Escheator of Middlesex, dated 20th June, 1596, commanding the heirs of Thomas Lawrence, deceased, to appear before him with proof of title to their estate; this summons is accompanied by contemporary copies of a grant of "the capitall howse or messuage of the mannor of Chelsey" from Marie Basset to Thomas Parrys, dated 5th May, 1559, and a grant of the same premises from Robert Chamberlyn and William Mounsey to Thomas Lawrence, citizen and goldsmith of London, dated 20th June, 1584. These were evidently copied and retained by the owners, whilst the originals were in the possession of the Escheator in compliance with the foregoing warrant.

Other deeds have been added to the collection. One is a lease dated 29th December, 1786, from John, Earl of Ashburnham,

*View of the Retainers, Truce & Squaders at Blenheim with an exact representation of the battle
 1st of July 1704. The scene is a representation of the battle of Blenheim, which was fought on the 1st of July 1704.
 The battle occurred May 24, 1704, and the death of King George II. The battle was fought at Blenheim, which was the first battle of the War of the Spanish Succession.*



signed and sealed by him, to Lady Mary Coke, of a piece of ground "being formerly meadow or marsh ground and since converted into and used as osier ground" near to a certain mansion house formerly in the possession of the Countess Dowager of Huntingdon, afterwards of Richard, Lord Powerscourt, having the river on the south side, the lands of the late Sir Hans Sloane and other lands heretofore in the possession of Dr. Benjamin Hoadley on the north, and the piece of pasture ground commonly called the Lotts on the west. Two other leases dated 23rd March, and 29th April, 1699, are from Thomas, Lord Wharton, signed and sealed by him, to Benjamin Stallwood of ground "whereon the late Goate Alehouse stood being nigh the Horseferry in greate Chelsey," and "a parcell of ground being next to the ground whereon the old Goate Alehouse stood." It will be remembered that a tablet at the end of Danvers Street records that "This is Danvers Street begun in ye year 1696 by Benjamin Stallwood." A further deed is a lease dated 20th October, 1719, of certain lands in Chelsea to Sir John Cope, the younger, of Bramsill.

The Committee have purchased out of the Chelsea Commemoration Fund, an additional fourteen drawings of Old Chelsea by Mr. W. W. Burgess, R.E., towards the completion of the series and inclusive of the copyright. Mr. Burgess besides presented a proof etching of Whistler's grave at Chiswick. Other purchases out of this fund were engraved portraits of Henry, Duke of Beaufort, after Kneller; Catherine of Braganza, after Lely; and Charles Sloane, Earl Cadogan, and the Hon. Mrs. Cadogan, both after Reynolds. This fund is now nearly exhausted.

Other acquisitions were a lithographic portrait of Field-Marshal Sir Samuel Hulse, Governor of Chelsea Hospital, 1820-37; an engraved portrait of the Rev. Derwent Coleridge, Principal of St. Mark's College; and a coloured print by Rowlandson of Chelsea Reach.

Councillor James Jeffery, J.P., L.C.C., presented a framed photographic portrait of himself in his robes as Mayor. It is hoped from time to time to continue the series of portraits of Mayors of

Chelsea, those of the Earl Cadogan, K.G., and Major W. Fountain Woods being already in the Library.

Mr. A. Abrahams presented a collection of Chelsea letters, 1826-51, mostly written by Admiral W. H. Smyth, of Cheyne Walk ; and Mr. Reginald Blunt has lent a Chelsea token of 1667.

GIFTS OF BOOKS.

During the year 663 volumes were received from the under-mentioned, and to all of these donors the Committee have conveyed their grateful thanks:—

Mr. A. Abrahams ; The Amalgamated Press, Ltd. ; Anti-Tea-Duty League ; Mrs. W. T. Arnold ; Mr. G. B. Beeman ; Mrs. Reginald Blunt ; Mrs. C. C. Blore ; British Institute of Social Service ; British Museum Trustees ; British South Africa Co. ; Brooklyn Institute ; Mr. W. W. Burgess ; M. Henri Bustelli ; Mrs. A. Hugh M. Butler ; Lady Buxton ; Canadian Government (High Commissioner, Departments of Agriculture and Geological Survey) ; Mr. Thos. G. Carson ; Mr. George Carter ; Chelsea Physic Garden Committee ; City and Guilds of London Institute ; Mr. F. C. Conybeare ; Mr. T. G. Cooling ; Co-operative Union, Ltd. ; Rt. Hon. Leonard H. Courtney ; Miss A. M. Cust ; Dr. R. N. Cust, J.P. ; Mr. J. Davies ; Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, M.P. ; Mr. W. E. Drinkwater ; East End Emigration Fund ; Mr. H. E. Egerton, J.P. ; Mrs. Frank Eland ; Emigrants' Information Office ; "Faith" Association ; Garden City Association ; Great Western Railway Co. ; Hon. Albertine Grosvenor ; Guildford Chamber of Trade ; Harvard College, U.S.A. ; Mr. D. Hipwell ; Mrs. M. Hogarth ; Mr. A. Holford ; Miss J. B. Horner ; Mr. E. J. Horniman, M.P., L.C.C. ; Messrs. Howarth and Co. ; Mrs. C. M. Johnstone ; Land Nationalisation Society ; Mr. G. C. Law ; Mrs. C. E. Barrett-Lennard ; Mr. Aston Lewis ; London County Council ; London City Corporation ; London Directory Co. ; London University Correspondence College ; Mr. J. A. McGuy ; Mrs. R. Maslin ; Messrs. Mather and Crowther ; Mr. Geo. Mathieson ; Metropolitan Asylums Board ; Miss B. M. M. Miniken ;

Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co. ; Mr. Percy C. Morris ; The Agent General for New South Wales ; New York State Library ; New Zealand Government ; North Eastern Railway Co. ; Ontario Government Agency, Liverpool ; Mr. Thomas N. Orchard ; Dr. Louis C. Parkes ; Messrs. J. and J. Paton ; Mr. Herbert W. Paul, M.P. ; Messrs. Walter Perry and Co. ; Philadelphia Free Library ; Mr. C. Potter ; Mr. J. Henry Quinn ; Mr. H. Robinson ; Royal Colonial Institute ; Royal National Life-Boat Institution ; Mr. George Shann ; Mrs. Skelton ; Miss Sara Silvers ; Singer Sewing Machine Co. ; Mr. H. W. Smith ; Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P. ; Society of Accountants and Auditors ; Society of Friends ; Sociological Society ; Swedenborg Society ; Miss M. B. Synge ; Mrs. W. Trafford-Taunton ; Rev. H. Byerly Thomson ; Mrs. E. M. Thornton ; Mrs. M. J. Thruston ; Mr. James Timewell ; Trinity College of Music, London ; Mrs. Anthony Trollope ; U.S. Bureau of Education ; Universal Cookery and Food Association ; Victoria League ; Volta Bureau ; Rev. C. Voysey ; Lady A. S. Ward ; Mr. R. S. Watson ; Prof. J. Westlake, K.C. ; Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson ; Miss L. H. Wilczynska ; Lady Cory Wright.

NEWSPAPERS, &C. PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—

Accountant, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Animals' Guardian, Anti-Slavery Reporter, Arts and Crafts, Athenæum, Band of Mercy, Bird Notes and News, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British Architect, British Australasian, British Esperantist, Broad Arrow, Buddhism, Canadian Gazette, Charity Organization Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Child's Guardian, Christian, Christian Globe, Christian Science Sentinel, Church Family Newspaper, Church of England League Gazette, Circle, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerk of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, Cowkeeper and Dairyman's Journal, Drapers' Record, Educational Record, Educational Times, Englishwoman's Review, Estates Gazette, Ethics, Extensionist, Fireman, Food and Cookery, Free Russia, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Garden City, Herald of Health, Hospital, Humanitarian, Incorporated Accountants Journal, Indian Opinion, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Labour Co-Partnership, Labour Gazette,

Laundry Journal, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Journal, London Argus, London Crusader, London County Council Gazette, L.C.C. Workmen's Trains, &c. Guide, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Manual Training Teacher, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Modern Society, Morley College Magazine, Musical Herald, Musicians' Report and Journal, Natal Mercury, National Service Journal, Nature Notes, New Century Path, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Park Chapel (Chelsea) Magazine, Patents, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Picture Post-Card Magazine, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Printers' Register, Progress, Prohibitionist, Psycho-Therapeutic Journal, Public Health Journal, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, St. Mark's College Magazine, Scraps, Socialist Standard, South Africa, State Correspondent, Stone Trades Journal, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Timber Trades Journal, Tongues of Fire, Tool and Machinery Register, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian Messenger, Vulcan, Women's Suffrage Record, Zoophilist.

Besides the above, the following persons presented the periodicals named :—

Dr. A. Hinckes Bird, British Medical Journal. Mr. George Carter, Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. E. Chambers, Bible Society Monthly Reporter, Gleanings for the Young. Chelsea Temperance Society, Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, The English Churchman. Professor Westlake, K.C., Economic Journal.

The Chelsea Borough Council, Chelsea Board of Guardians, and London County Council have sent their minutes of proceedings, as issued, and the principal railway companies supplied their time tables.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—283		SUNDAYS. Days open—51.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	375	1	25	...
Religion	1544	6	116	2
Sociology	4540	16	264	5
Language	4614	16	428	8
Science	3218	12	187	4
Useful Arts	3750	13	291	6
Fine Arts	5041	18	253	5
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	4778	17	379	7
History, Biography, Travels	17891	63	1056	21
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	7143	25	490	10
TOTAL.....	52,894	187	3489	68

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—281.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	757	3
Religion ..	1572	6
Sociology	1626	6
Language	464	2
Science	2271	8
Useful Arts	2912	10
Fine Arts	4459	16
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	6170	22
History, Biography, Travels	11593	41
Books for Children	15152	54
Prose Fiction	71257	253
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.) ...	2737	9
TOTAL.....	120,970	430

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5403.

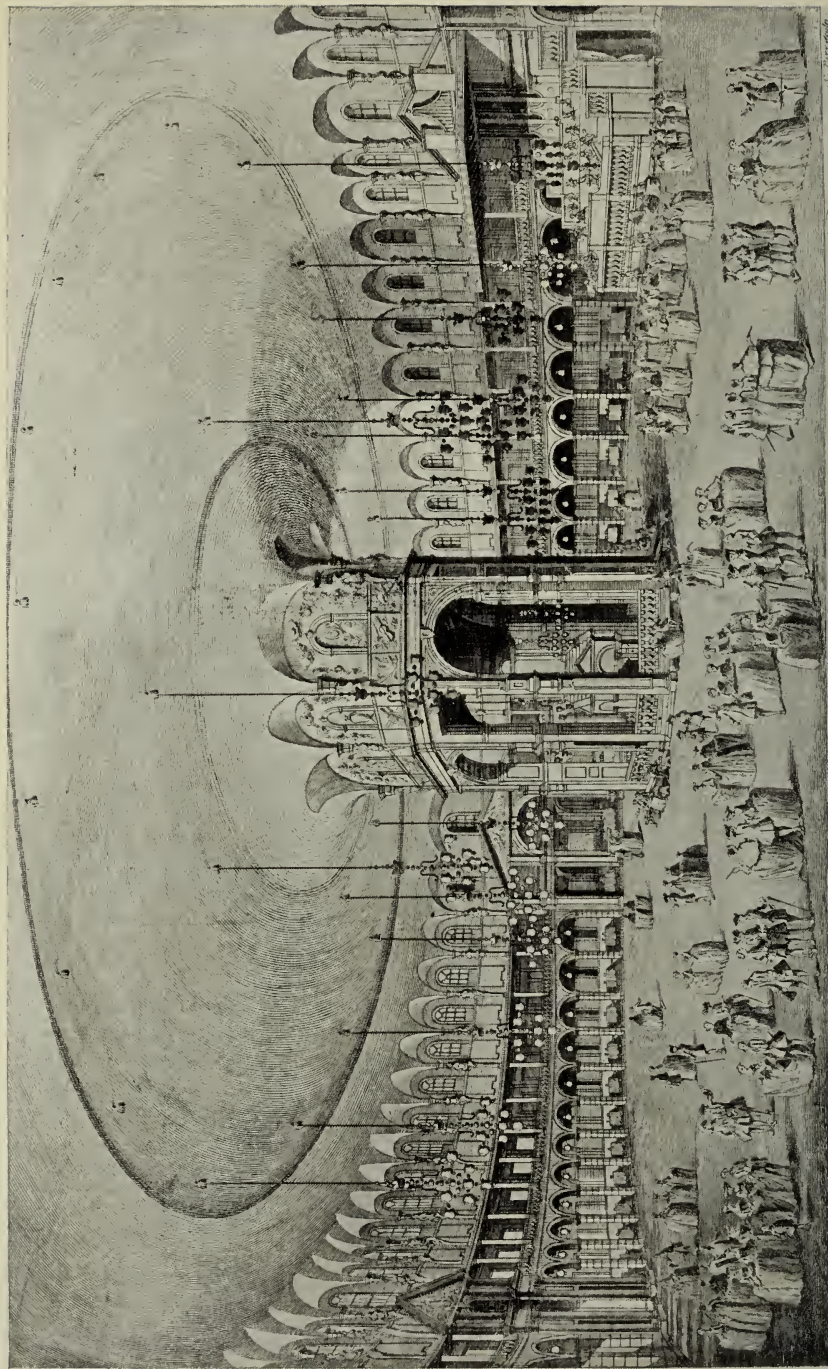
CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

TABLE 3, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED, WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Open 164 evenings and 64 days.	SUNDAYS. Open 38 evenings.
	Total volumes issued.	Total volumes issued.
Religion	123	26
Sociology	226	47
Language	127	13
Science	804	148
Useful Arts	177	20
Fine Arts	83	9
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	643	141
History, Biography, Travels	1793	365
Stories	11184	2147
Magazines and Periodicals (in vols.)	10642	2117
TOTAL.....	25,802	5,033

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Children's Rooms.	Total.	Per cent.
Philosophy	400	757	...	1157	'56
Religion	1660	1572	149	3381	1'62
Sociology	4804	1626	273	6703	3'22
Language	5042	464	140	5646	2'71
Science	3405	2271	952	6628	3'18
Useful Arts	4041	2912	197	7150	3'43
Fine Arts	5294	4459	92	9845	4'73
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5157	6170	784	12111	5'82
History, Biography, Travels ...	18947	11593	2158	32698	15'71
Stories for Children.....	...	15152	13331	28483	13'68
Prose Fiction .....	...	71257	...	71257	34'23
Miscellaneous (Magazines, En- cyclopædias, &c.).....	7633	2737	12759	23129	11'11
TOTAL.....	56,383	120,970	30,835	208,188	100'



Ans. Grande Salle de la Bibliothèque du Palais de Versailles.
Grande Salle de la Bibliothèque du Palais de Versailles.

Grande Salle de la Bibliothèque du Palais de Versailles.
Grande Salle de la Bibliothèque du Palais de Versailles.

Grande Salle de la Bibliothèque du Palais de Versailles.
Grande Salle de la Bibliothèque du Palais de Versailles.

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF
VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	...	...	...	...	45,905
1891-92	...	...	...	...	157,693
1892-93	...	...	...	...	168,623
1893-94	...	...	...	...	179,456
1894-95	...	...	...	...	180,016
1895-96	...	...	...	...	170,834
1896-97	...	...	...	...	171,298
1897-98	...	...	...	...	168,853
1898-99	...	...	...	...	171,585
1899-1900	...	...	...	...	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	...	...	...	...	159,892
1901-2	...	...	...	...	184,656
1902-3	...	...	...	...	211,611
1903-4	...	...	...	...	216,590
1904-5	...	...	...	...	198,257
1905-6	...	...	...	...	208,188
TOTAL					<u>2,763,979</u>

TABLE 6, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING
THE READING ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

1905				Total.
Saturday, April 15th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	...	...	1031
Monday, May 22nd	( " " )	...	...	1205
Tuesday, June 27th	( " " )	...	...	1073
Wednesday, July 19th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	..	...	670
Thursday, August 24th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	...	...	983
Friday, September 29th	( " " )	...	...	1325
Saturday, October 28th	( " " )	...	...	1017
Monday, November 20th	( " " )	...	...	1110
Tuesday, December 13th	( " " )	...	..	1206
1906				
Wednesday, January 17th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	..	...	782
Thursday, February 22nd	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	...	...	1165
Friday, March 16th	( " " )	...	...	1290

BANK HOLIDAYS.

Easter Monday, April 24th	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	172
Whit Monday, June 12th	(" ")	145
First Monday in August, August 7th	(" ")	238
Boxing Day, December 26th	(" ")	118

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

The Reading Rooms were open on 51 Sundays, the total attendance being 16,855, giving an average of 330 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.)

TABLE 7, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE STOCK OF BOOKS, BY DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference	Lending.	Children's Rooms.	Total volumes in Library, 31st Mar., 1906.	Per cent.	Additions to the stock during the year.
Philosophy	221	466	1	688	1'53	33
Religion	994	1562	21	2577	5'81	113
Sociology	1768	1556	6	3330	7'51	136
Language	222	243	16	481	1'09	28
Science	1150	1199	69	2418	5'46	137
Useful Arts	1304	964	18	2286	5'16	89
Fine Arts	1556	1396	4	2956	6'67	154
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ...	1615	2787	37	4439	10'01	147
History, Biography, Travels	5986	6810	109	12905	29'11	657
Stories for Children...	...	2012	472	2484	5'60	32
Prose Fiction .....	...	5799	...	5799	13'08	108
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, Magazines, &c.)	2863	1051	64	3978	8'97	231
TOTAL.....	17,679	25,845	817	44,341	100'	1,865

Memoranda.

Population of the Borough of Chelsea, Census 1901	73,842.
Estimated population, 1905	74,496.
Area of the Borough	659·6 acres.
Rateable Value of the Borough	£910,472.
Public Libraries Acts adopted	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall ...	7th Nov., 1887.
Librarian appointed	25th Nov., 1887.
The Earl Cadogan, K.G., gave the freehold of a site for the Library and £350 for the purchase of technical books	Feb., 1888.
Charity Commissioners received Deputation organized by the Libraries Commissioners asking for the establishment of the South-Western Polytechnic	30th April, 1888.
Reply received from the Charity Commissioners agreeing to the establishment of the Polytechnic	10th May, 1888.
The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P., gave £500 for the purchase of books ...	May, 1888.
Memorial Stone of the Library laid by the Countess Cadogan	8th Feb., 1890.
Library opened by the Earl Cadogan, K.G. ...	21st Jan., 1891.
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened	4th Dec., 1899.
Public Libraries Commissioners' duties transferred to the Boroughs of Chelsea and Paddington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington	1st April, 1901.
Number of Volumes in the Library	44,341.
Number of Volumes issued 1905-6	208,188.
Total number issued since opening	2,763,979.

FINANCIAL

Sums received and expended

RECEIPTS.						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries Account) ...									3,414	13	6
Fines and Penalties						68	0	9½			
Other Receipts :--											
Sale of catalogues, tickets, &c.						39	13	0½			
Bank interest						36	16	7			
									144	10	5
Transferred from Capital Account (Paddington and Chelsea Adjustment Scheme) for redemption of Loans... ..									1,370	0	0

£4,929 3 11

PADDINGTON AND CHELSEA CAPITAL

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1904-5	2,566	0	0

£2,566 0 0

CHELSEA COMMEMORA

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1904-5	42	4	10

£42 4 10

BEQUEST OF MRS.

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1904-5	100	0	0

STATEMENT, 1905-6.

under the Public Libraries Acts.

EXPENDITURE.					£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1904-5	...	...	...	...				24	4	11
Buildings, Repairs and Maintenance :—										
Building and furniture repairs and improvements					52	0	9½			
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting	...	...	...	...	288	8	10			
Rates and taxes, insurance	...	...	...	...	39	1	3			
								379	10	10½
Books, Newspapers, &c.	...	...	...	...	497	2	8			
Bookbinding and repairs	...	...	...	...	89	5	11			
Printing catalogues	...	...	...	...	38	5	6			
								624	14	1
Salaries of Officers and Assistants	...	...	...	...				1,100	19	2
Establishment charges :—										
Stationery and printing	...	...	...	...	28	6	7			
Carriage, postage, &c.	...	...	...	...	12	8	5½			
Uniforms, &c.	...	...	...	...	13	13	6			
								54	8	6½
Payment to Paddington Borough Council under										
Financial Adjustment Scheme	...	...	...	...				300	0	0
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans :—										
Principal repaid :—										
To the London County Council	...	...	...	...	426	18	9			
Interest, including Income Tax :—										
To the London County Council	...	...	...	...	252	17	8			
								679	16	5
Redemption of Loans :—										
Site Loan	...	...	...	...	490	0	0			
Bookshelving Loan	...	...	...	...	880	0	0			
								1,370	0	0
Cost of Redemption of Loans	...	...	...	...				13	0	0
Total expenditure	...	...	...	...				4,546	14	0
Balance at the end of the year	...	...	...	...				382	9	11
								<u>£4,929</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>11</u>

(ADJUSTMENT) SCHEME. ACCOUNT.

	£	s.	d.
Transferred to Receipts and Expenditure A/c for redemption of Loans	1,370	0	0
Improvements, &c. works (on account)	910	3	11
Balance	285	16	1
	<u>£2,566</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>0</u>

TION (1837-1897) FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Purchase of Chelsea Prints and Drawings	22	1	0
Balance	20	3	10
	<u>£42</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>10</u>

HENRIETTA YATES.

Balance in hand	£100	0	0
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J. HENRY QUINN,
Clerk to the Public Libraries Committee.

STATEMENT AS TO LOANS UNDER THE PUBLIC LIBRARIES ACTS.

YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH, 1906.

Purpose of Loan.	Amount of loan sanctioned.	Date of Sanction.	Amount originally borrowed.	Name of lender.	Date of original borrowing.	For what period.	Mode of repayment, whether by annuity or otherwise.	Amount of principal owing at the commencement of the year.	Principal repaid during the year.	Amount of interest paid during the year.	Amount of principal owing at the end of the year.	Rate of interest.
Purchase of leasehold interests, Library site	£ 700	1st Feb., 1890	£ 700	London County Council	11th March, 1890	Yrs. 50	Annual instalments of £14	£ s. d. 490 0 0	£ s. d. 490 0 0	£ s. d. 8 13 5	£ s. d. —	Per ann. 3½ %
Library building	10,750	Do.	10,700	Do.	Do.	30	Annuity in Half-yearly instalments of £290 6s.6d. covering principal and interest.	6717 5 5	346 18 9	233 2 3	6370 6 8	Do.
Bookshelving, Reference Library	1,200	25th April, 1901	1,200	Do.	11th Oct., 1901	15	Annual instalments of £80	960 0 0	960 0 0	11 2 0	—	Do.
TOTALS	£12,650		£12,600					£8167 5 5	51796 18 9	252 17 8	6370 6 8	



JOHN GREGORY, ESQ.

From a Mezzotinto in the Library, by J. R. Smith.

Justice Walk was so named because Gregory, who was a magistrate, was in the habit of pacing it for exercise.

[Frontispiece.]

METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1907.

LONDON :

PRINTED BY G. SHIELD, LANCELOT PLACE, BROMPTON ROAD, S.W.

MAY, 1907.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

2

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums,

1906-7.

MR. DAVID H. HODGE, **Chairman.**

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH, **Deputy Chairman.**

ALDERMAN THE HON. WM. SIDNEY, J.P., **Mayor.**

COUNCILLOR T. C. E. GOFF, J.P., L.C.C.

COUNCILLOR E. L. MEINERTZHAGEN,
J.P.

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

COUNCILLOR W. J. MULVEY.

MR. F. W. PROCTER, J.P.

COUNCILLOR P. A. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR T. J. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR GEORGE WHITE.

COUNCILLOR MAJOR W. F. WOODS.

COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.

Librarian and Clerk to the Committee :

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarians : A. DENTON AND C. O. BALCOMBE.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Public Library.

TWENTIETH ANNUAL REPORT, 1906-1907.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums in submitting their Annual Report, the twentieth of the series, have pleasure in stating that the Institution continues to make satisfactory progress in popular favour and usefulness, and is efficiently maintained in all departments.

The total issue of books was 223,079, as against 208,188 last year, and 198,257 the previous year. The increase of 14,891 on last year is spread over all the departments, and is the highest number yet recorded. The total issue represents a daily average turnover of 739 volumes.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued for reference during the year was 62,418, or an increase of 6,035 on the previous year. This increase is in all classes of literature. The daily average issue was 208 on week days (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.), and 76 on Sundays (3 to 9 p.m.), as against 187 and 68 respectively last year.

The educational value of this Department is becoming better recognised and appreciated by students and others in the neighbourhood, who are bestowing special attention upon any subject. The volumes allocated for reference now number 18,568, and, in addition, the stock of the Lending Department (other than

Children's Books and Fiction, which are excluded) is available, giving a total of 37,347 volumes.

In May last the Committee ordered that this Department should remain closed on the Bank Holidays, as the poor attendance on those days did not justify its opening.

There is a continued falling off in the use made of the Reference Library by the teachers of the South-Western Polytechnic, who are permitted to take books from this Department into the Polytechnic for teaching purposes. The number so issued during the year was 62, as against 151 last year, and 386 the year before. As stated in the last report, this is probably due to the gradual acquisition of reference books by the Polytechnic authorities. This overlapping, however, does not seem to affect the use of the Reference Library by the students of the Polytechnic.

The authorities of Merton College, Oxford, have again deposited in the Library a number of MSS. from their archives, for the use of Mr. A. F. Leach, in his work upon the history of schools.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued in this Department for the year was 121,178, or an increase of 208 on the previous year. An examination of the issues shows an increase in the classes of Religion, Fine Arts, Books for Children, and Fiction, and a decrease in all the other classes. The percentage of the fiction issued, apart from books for children, continues to decrease somewhat, and taken with the whole issues was 32·32 per cent., as against 34·23 last year, and 35·29 the year before. Taken with the Lending Library issues alone, it is 59·5 per cent., and therefore is not as high as is generally supposed. It is interesting to note that the issue of fiction in the summer months was $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. greater than in the winter, when books of a more solid character were read. The percentage of novels to the entire stock of books is 12·98.

The number of borrowers' tickets issued during the year was 2,777, consisting of 2,269 Readers' Tickets, 396 Students' Tickets,

and 112 Music Tickets, the number cancelled during the same period being 2,622, made up of 2,128 Readers' Tickets, 400 Students' Tickets, and 94 Music Tickets, leaving the present number in force at 5,558, an increase of 155 on the previous year. The number of Students' Tickets issued includes 147 for students of the South-Western Polytechnic not residing in Chelsea, as against 179 such tickets issued last year. This decrease is due mainly to the transfer of the evening commercial section from the Polytechnic to other centres in London County Council Evening Schools.

The number of volumes now in this Department is 26,877, showing an increase of 1,032 since the last report. The number of books worn out and withdrawn from circulation during the year was 389; of these 248 were replaced by new copies, and 141 were cancelled in the stock-book. This number includes 14 books destroyed by the Sanitary Officers, under the arrangement made between the Public Health Committee and this Committee. Six books were lost to the Library owing to the disappearance of the borrowers and their guarantors, and 27 other books were lost by borrowers who paid for them. At the annual stocktaking two books of small value were found to be missing. The applications made by post for the return of books kept beyond the time allowed for reading numbered 881, and messengers had to be specially sent on 26 occasions to secure the return of books.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

The statistics of the attendance in this Room as given in Table 6 show that it is increasing in popularity. These statistics are the result of a monthly counting of the numbers of persons entering the room, the days of the week being taken in succession, and thereby a fair record is obtained. These figures represent an average daily attendance of 1,233, or a total for the year of 345,240.

There is a continued decrease in the numbers attending on Sunday, the average for the year being 317, as against 330 last

year, and 344 the previous year. The Sunday attendance varied from 337 on the 18th November, to 210 on the 10th June. The Bank Holiday attendance also continues disappointing, and shows that the opening on these days is not appreciated.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

The Children's Rooms opened in December, 1905, have, so far, fully justified their formation, as they continue to prove attractive. Now that the novelty has worn off the attendance may be considered to have reached its normal, although it will always be subject to fluctuations consequent upon the weather. The total number of attendances recorded was 32,293, and represents a daily average of 90, the highest attendance being 324 on Sunday, 14th October, and the lowest 2, on Saturday, 23rd June, though the attendance on Saturdays throughout the year is always very small. The rooms are open every evening, Sunday included, from 5 to 9 p.m. The number of volumes issued was 39,483, a daily average of 110. The accommodation set apart for children doing their school preparation work has clearly met a want, to judge by the use made of it, and the books of study and reference provided in connection therewith, have been of even more service than was expected.

The number of books now in this department is 967, and over a third of these are of an educational character. Table 4 shows the classification of the books issued, and gives a general idea of the character of the reading.

Mr. Percy C. Morris, a member of the Committee, presented sixty-five attractive and useful books for these rooms.

VISITS OF SCHOOLS.

Visits paid by Schools to the Library as part of their work were not so many as in the previous year; those attending came from Park Walk L.C.C. School (47 girls), from St. Mark's College School (28 boys), and from Brompton Choir School (18 boys). Besides these visits, a number of boys came from St. Mark's

College School, in charge of a teacher, to make sketches from the drawings in the Gallery of houses of local celebrities.

CATALOGUES.

The Quarterly Lists have been regularly continued during the year, and are still greatly appreciated. They have been altogether devoted to lists of new books added to the Lending Department, space not permitting of any special reading lists.

The printing of the new edition of the General Catalogue of the Lending Department is now nearing completion. The Council entered into a contract with Messrs. Truslove & Bray, Ltd., of West Norwood, for carrying out the work, their estimate having been accepted by the Committee from a number of firms invited to tender. The last complete edition of the catalogue was published in 1897, and contained entries of 15,754 volumes. The new catalogue deals with 23,144 volumes, and does not include Books for Children or the collection of Vocal and Instrumental Music, catalogues of these two sections having been published separately.

The books contained in the Reference Department are fully and regularly posted under Authors and Subjects in the type-written catalogues kept for public use in that Department.

BUILDING IMPROVEMENTS.

The Committee have been engaged during the year in the work of settling the accounts of the building improvements, including the provision of Children's Rooms, as described in their last report. The following statement shows the estimates submitted by the Finance Committee of the Council as adopted by the Council, and the actual cost of the work. The book-shelving to complete the works is now in hand, and the cost is included in the present statement.

	£	s.	d.
Provision of Gallery and Book-shelving, &c., in Lending Library, as estimated ...	485	0	0
Full cost	441	5	6
Amount under estimate	<u>£43</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>6</u>
Completion of Basement, and provision of Children's Rooms therein, as estimated..	1,050	0	0
Full cost	1,017	18	8
Amount under estimate	<u>£32</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>
Architect's Fees, as estimated	80	0	0
Full cost	57	7	0
Amount under estimate	<u>£22</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>0</u>

The total cost of all the works was £1,516 11s. 2d., and this has been met by the sum of £1,196 received from the Paddington Borough Council under the Paddington and Chelsea Financial Adjustment Scheme, and allotted for these works with the sanction of the Local Government Board and the Borough Council, the balance of £320 11s. 2d. being paid out of the Library income divided over two years.

In view of these improvements, and the gradually increasing value of the stock of books, pictures, &c., the Committee have recently considered the question of insurance, and have increased the total sum insured against fire from £21,665 to £28,025.

LOCAL COLLECTION.

The only addition to this collection of any special interest was a portrait in oils, by an unknown artist, of the Abbé Voyaux de Franous, who was born in 1760, at Tendon in the Vosges, and who at the time of the French Revolution succeeded in escaping from Paris, where he was the Rector of a Religious College. He settled in Chelsea, and he first engaged in teaching, but later



THE ABBÉ VOYAUX DE FRANOUS.

[Face p. 8.]

commenced a small mission in Lower George Street, Chelsea, which developed into the present St. Mary's Church, Cadogan Street. He died on the 16th November, 1840, after upwards of forty years' residence in Chelsea.

Among the local books added were "The Just Man's Funeral, lately delivered in a Sermon at Chelsey, by Thomas Fuller, 1649;" an Auction Sale Catalogue, with prices, of part of the curiosities of Don Saltero's Coffee House, January, 1799; and "The memoires of the Dutchess Mazarine, written in French by her own hand, and done into English by P. Porter, 1676." Hortense Mancini, Duchess of Mazarin, came to England about 1675, and resided in Paradise Row, Chelsea, where she died in July, 1699.

In accordance with custom, Councillor W. J. Mulvey has presented a framed photograph of himself, in his robes as Mayor of Chelsea.

Lord Courtney of Penwith presented to the Library an interesting and curious etching by Tom Hood, entitled, "The Progress of Cant."

Permission to reproduce prints and drawings from the Local Collection has been granted to Mr. Reginald Blunt, of Glebe Place, for his book upon Paradise Row; and to Mr. E. Beresford Chancellor, of Elm Park Gardens, for his work upon the Squares of London.

GIFTS OF BOOKS.

The following is a list of the donors of books during the year, and to all of these the Committee have expressed their best thanks:—

Governors of Aberdeen University; Central Association of Accountants; Society of Accountants and Auditors; Mrs. W. T. Arnold; Miss Agnes Ashbee; Messrs. Robert Banks & Son; Mr. Chas. W. Bateman; Bohemian Section, Austrian Exhibition, Earl's Court; Mr. Reginald Blunt; Board of Agriculture and Fisheries; Mr. Jas. H. Bridges; British Museum Trustees; British Weights and Measures Association; Brooklyn Institute of

Arts and Sciences, U.S.A. ; Bureau of Provincial Information, Victoria, B.C. ; Lady Buxton ; High Commissioner for Canada ; Canadian Manufacturers' Association ; Mr. George Carter ; Miss Grace Carter ; City and Guilds of London Institute ; Colchester Chamber of Commerce ; Commons and Footpaths Preservation Society ; Co-operative Union, Ltd. ; Lord Courtney of Penwith ; Messrs. Crane, Crane & Co. ; Miss A. M. E. Cust ; Dr. R. N. Cust ; "The Decorator," Department of Agriculture, Canada ; Sir Chas. W. Dilke, Bart., M.P. ; Messrs. Wm. Douglas and Sons, Ltd. ; Mr. Francis Druce ; Prof. H. E. Egerton ; First Church of Christ Scientist, Chelsea ; "A Friend ;" Mrs. H. L. A. Garbett ; Geological Survey of Canada ; Trustees of Mrs. Honyman Gillespie ; Mr. A. B. Grimaldi ; Dr. E. B. Hallier ; Hammersmith Borough Council ; Dr. W. W. Hardwicke ; Mr. A. S. Hartrick ; Harvard College, U.S.A. ; Mr. W. Hill ; Mr. D. Hipwell ; Mr. E. J. Horniman, M.P. ; Dr. J. B. Hurry ; Mrs. C. M. Johnstone ; Labour Co-partnership Association ; Mr. W. W. Ladelle ; Lancashire and Yorkshire Railway Co. ; Lancashire Publishing Co. ; Messrs. C. & E. Layton ; Mrs. C. E. Barrett-Lennard ; London County Council ; London Directory Co. ; Miss A. Long ; Messrs. Macdonald & Co. ; Miss E. McKinnell ; Mrs. V. Maslin ; Messrs. Mather and Crowther ; Mr. Frederic R. Marvin ; Metropolitan Asylums Board ; Mr. Percy C. Morris ; Agent-General for Natal ; National Union of Teachers ; Agent-General for New South Wales ; High Commissioner for New Zealand ; Town Clerk of Newbury ; North Eastern Railway Co. ; "Philmic," Mr. Edwin A. Pratt ; Rational Association Friendly Society ; "Resurrection" Fund Committee ; Mr. J. G. Ritchie ; Mr. J. W. Root ; Royal Colonial Institute ; Royal Commission for the St. Louis Exhibition, 1904 ; Society of Friends ; South-Eastern and Chatham Railway Co. ; Stubbs Publishing Co., Ltd. ; Mr. C. W. Sutton ; Miss M. B. Syngé ; Agent-General for Tasmania ; Mr. Ralph Thomas ; Rev. J. Pulein-Thompson ; Tonic Sol-fa College ; United States Bureau of Education ; Victoria Public Library, Melbourne ; Mr. T. F.

Walker ; Prof. J. Westlake, K.C. ; Miss I. Williamson ; Women's Local Government Society ; Major W. Fountain Woods.

NEWSPAPERS, &C. PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors :—

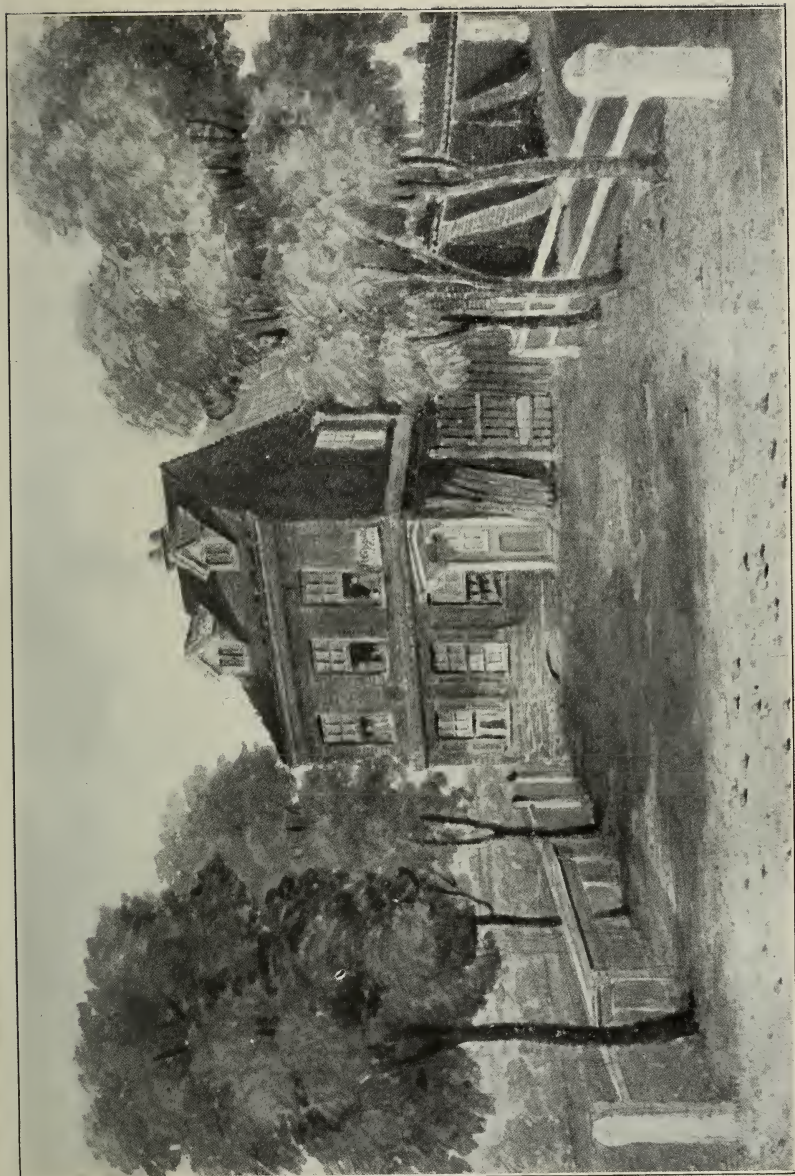
Accountant, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Animals' Guardian, Anti-Slavery Reporter, Arts and Crafts, Athenæum, Band of Mercy, Bird Notes and News, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British Architect, British Australasian, British Esperantist, Broad Arrow, Canadian Gazette, Century Path, Charity Organization Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Child's Guardian, Christian, Christian Globe, Christian Science Journal, Christian Science Sentinel, Church Family Newspaper, Church Gazette, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerk of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, Co-Partnership, Cowkeeper and Dairyman's Journal, Decorator, Drapers' Record, Educational Record, Educational Times, Englishwoman's Review, Epicure, Estates Gazette, Ethics, Fireman, Food and Cookery, Free Russia, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Fulham Times, Garden City, Health Record, Herald of Health, Hospital, Humanitarian, Incorporated Accountants Journal, Indian Opinion, Individualist, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Labour Gazette, Laundry Journal, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Journal, Local Government Officer, London Argus, London Crusader, London County Council Gazette, L.C.C. Workmen's Trains, &c. Guide, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Manual Training Teacher, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Modern Society, Morley College Magazine, Motor Traction, Municipal Reform Gazette, Musical Herald, Musicians' Report and Journal, Natal Mercury, National Service Journal, Nature Notes, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Patents, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Photographic News, Picture Post-Card Magazine, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Printers' Register, Progress, Prohibitionist, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, Scraps, Socialist Standard, State Correspondent, Stone Trades Journal, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Theosophical Quarterly, Tongues of Fire, Tool and Machinery Register, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian Messenger, Vulcan, Woodworker, Zoophilist.

Besides the above, the following persons presented the periodicals named :—

Mr. George Carter, Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. E. Chambers, Bible in the World, Bible Society Gleanings. Chelsea Temperance

Society, Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis, The English Churchman. Mr. L. Moon, Emmanuel, Chelsea, Parochial Magazine. Professor Westlake, K.C., Economic Journal. Mr. W. E. Llewellyn, One and All.

The Chelsea Borough Council, Chelsea Board of Guardians, and London County Council, have sent their Minutes of Proceedings as issued, and the railway companies supplied their time tables. Annual reports have been received from a number of public libraries.



THE QUEEN'S ELM (about 1826).
From a Water-colour drawing in the Library.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—280		SUNDAYS. Days open—53.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	495	2	41	1
Religion	1605	6	110	2
Sociology	4881	17	325	6
Language	5091	18	487	9
Science	3025	11	148	3
Useful Arts	4394	16	254	5
Fine Arts	5258	19	304	6
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5095	18	414	8
History, Biography, Travels	20030	71	1363	25
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	8497	30	601	11
TOTAL.....	58,371	208	4047	76

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—279½.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	738	2
Religion ..	1735	6
Sociology	1436	5
Language	451	2
Science	2160	8
Useful Arts	2340	9
Fine Arts	4538	16
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5894	21
History, Biography, Travels	11244	40
Books for Children	15940	57
Prose Fiction	72090	258
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.) ...	2612	9
TOTAL.....	121,178	433

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5558.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

Table 3, showing the Occupations of the last Thousand Borrowers added to the Roll.

Accountants	3	Jewellers	3
Actors and Actresses	3	Journalists	6
Agents	5	Labourers	5
Architect	1	Lamp Shade Maker	1
Artists	41	Laundresses	3
Artist's Model	1	Librarian	1
Author	1	Machinist	1
Bakers and Confectioners	3	Mason	1
Bank Clerks	3	Merchants	2
Barristers	3	Metal Workers	3
Boarding House Keepers	4	Miller	1
Bookbinder	1	Milliners	6
Boot Makers and Repairers	4	Motor Mechanics & Chauffeurs	4
Bricklayer	1	Music Teachers and Musicians	13
Builder	1	Nurses	8
Butchers	3	Officers, Army	3
Cab Drivers and Coachmen	6	„ Naval	1
Cabinet Maker	1	Oilmen	3
Carmen	3	Packer	1
Carpenters and Joiners	4	Painters and Decorators	15
Chemists	6	Paperhanger	1
China and Glass Repairers	3	Parish Clerk	1
Civil Servants	10	Picture Frame Maker	1
Clergymen	6	Plumber	1
Clerks (including Typists)	65	Police Constable	1
Coachmakers	2	Porters and Attendants	9
Coffee House Keepers	2	Portmanteau Maker	1
Commercial Traveller	1	Postmen	4
Dental Surgeon	1	Printers and Compositors	5
Doctors	5	Private Secretary	1
Domestic Servants (25 M., 8 F.)	33	Publicans	2
Drapers and Assistants	6	Registrar	1
Dressmakers	34	Schoolmasters and Teachers	24
Engineers	12	Shop Managers and Assistants	15
„ Electrical	11	Sister of Mercy	1
Errand Boys	4	Stableman	1
Fireman	1	Students	53
Foreign Correspondent	1	Tailors	8
French Polishers	4	Telegraphists	6
Gardeners and Florists	4	Telephone Inspector	1
Gas Meter Maker	1	Ticket Writer	1
Glass Painter	1	Timber Merchant	1
Governesses	3	Waiter	1
Greengrocers	3	Wheelwrights	2
Grocers	2	Woodcarver	1
Gymnastic Teacher	1	No Occupation stated :—	
Hairdresser	1	Males (including 33 School	
Hosier	1	boys)	
Hotel Manager	1	Females (including 27 School	
House Agent	1	girls)	
Ironmonger	1	354	

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Open 305 evenings.	SUNDAYS. Open 53 evenings.
	Total volumes issued.	Total volumes issued.
Religion	55	14
Sociology	564	161
Language	186	19
Science	1141	353
Useful Arts	104	25
Fine Arts	89	25
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	952	288
History, Biography, Travels	2781	860
Stories	13617	3732
Magazines and Periodicals (in vols.)	11204	3313
TOTAL.....	30,693	8,790

READING ROOMS.

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING
THE ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

		Total.
1906		
Saturday, April 28th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) ...	1018
Monday, May 28th	(" ") ...	990
Tuesday, June 19th	(" ") ...	956
Wednesday, July 25th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.) ..	635
Thursday, August 16th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) ...	1057
Friday, September 21st	(" ") ...	1398
Saturday, October 20th	(" ") ...	1226
Monday, November 19th	(" ") ...	1531
Tuesday, December 18th	(" ") ...	1245
1907		
Wednesday, January 30th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.) ..	904
Thursday, February 14th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) ...	1401
Friday, March 22nd	(" ") ...	1204

BANK HOLIDAYS.

Easter Monday, April 16th	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	141
Whit Monday, June 4th	(" ")	136
First Monday in August, August 6th	(" ")	175
Boxing Day, December 26th	(" 11 a.m.)	9

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

The Reading Rooms were open on 53 Sundays, the total attendance being 16,837, giving an average of 317 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.)

TABLE 6, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF
VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Children's Rooms.	Total.	Per cent.
Philosophy	536	738	...	1274	'57
Religion	1715	1735	69	3519	1'58
Sociology	5206	1436	725	7367	3'3
Language	5578	451	205	6234	2'79
Science	3173	2160	1494	6827	3'06
Useful Arts	4648	2340	129	7117	3'19
Fine Arts	5562	4538	114	10214	4'58
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5509	5894	1240	12643	5'67
History, Biography, Travels ...	21393	11244	3641	36278	16'26
Stories for Children.....	...	15940	17349	33289	14'92
Prose Fiction .....	...	72090	...	72090	32'32
Miscellaneous (Magazines, En- cyclopædias, &c.).....	9098	2612	14517	26227	11'76
TOTAL.....	62,418	121,178	39,483	223,079	100'

TABLE 7, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF
VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	45,905
1891-92	157,693
1892-93	168,623
1893-94	179,456
1894-95	180,016
1895-96	170,834
1896-97	171,298
1897-98	168,853
1898-99	171,585
1899-1900	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	159,892
1901-2	184,656
1902-3	211,611
1903-4	216,590
1904-5	198,257
1905-6	208,188
1906-7	223,079
TOTAL	<u>2,987,058</u>



CHURCH PLACE (OR PALACE OF THE EARL OF ESSEX), about 1836.
From a Water-colour drawing in the Library.

TABLE 8, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE STOCK OF BOOKS, BY DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference	Lending.	Children's Rooms.	Total volumes in Library, 31st Mar., 1907.	Per cent.	Additions to the stock during the year.
Philosophy	227	497	1	725	1'56	37
Religion	1036	1618	25	2679	5'77	102
Sociology	1835	1608	8	3451	7'44	121
Language	230	265	19	514	1'11	33
Science	1194	1275	76	2545	5'48	127
Useful Arts	1356	1023	19	2398	5'17	112
Fin Arts	1679	1466	7	3152	6'79	196
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ...	1700	2869	51	4620	9.95	181
History, Biography, Travels.....	6382	7101	134	13617	29'34	712
Stories for Children...	...	2075	507	2582	5'56	98
Prose Fiction .....	...	6023	...	6023	12'98	224.
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, Magazines, &c.).....	2929	1057	120	4106	8.85	128
TOTAL.....	18,568	26,877	967	46,412	100'	2,071

FINANCIAL

Sums received and expended

RECEIPTS.						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1905-6	...	...	...	...	...				382	9	11
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries Account)	...								3,601	1	1
Fines and Penalties	...	...	...	...	...	74	4	6½			
Other Receipts :—											
Sale of catalogues, tickets, &c.	...	...	...	...	...	36	3	0½			
Bank interest	...	...	...	...	...	17	2	10			
									127	10	5

£4,111 1 5

PADDINGTON AND CHELSEA CAPITAL

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1905-6	285	16	1
Transferred from Receipts and Expenditure a/c (Special Works)	225	17	2
	<u>£511</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>3</u>

CHELSEA COMMEMORA

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1905-6	20	3	10
	<u>£20</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>10</u>

BEQUEST OF MRS.

Balance from 1905-6	£100	0	0
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STATEMENT.

under the Public Libraries Acts.

EXPENDITURE.						£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs and Maintenance :—											
Building and furniture repairs and improvements						123	17	5			
Cleaning, fuel, and lighting						274	9	7			
Rates and taxes, insurance						28	1	3			
Special Improvement, &c., Works						225	17	2			
						<hr/>			652	5	5
Books, Newspapers, &c.						644	3	3			
Bookbinding and repairs						88	9	4			
						<hr/>			732	12	7
Salaries of Officers and Assistants									1,176	15	0
Establishment charges, viz. :—											
Stationery and printing						56	10	3			
Carriage, postage, &c.						12	1	4½			
Uniform clothing						2	6	0			
						<hr/>			70	17	7½
Annual Payment to Paddington Borough Council											
under Financial Adjustment Scheme									300	0	0
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans :—											
Principal repaid :—											
To the London County Council						359	4	9			
Interest, including Income Tax :—											
To the London County Council						220	16	3			
						<hr/>			580	1	0
Total Expenditure									3,512	11	7½
Balance at the end of the year...									598	9	9½
						<hr/>			£4,111	1	5

Memoranda.

Population of the Borough of Chelsea, Census	
1901	73,842.
Estimated population, 1906	74,672.
Area of the Borough	659'6 acres.
Rateable Value of the Borough	£922,685.
Public Libraries Acts adopted	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall ...	7th Nov., 1887.
Librarian appointed	25th Nov., 1887.
The Earl Cadogan, K.G., gave the freehold of a site for the Library and £350 for the purchase of technical books	Feb., 1888.
Charity Commissioners received Deputation organized by the Chelsea Libraries Commissioners asking for the establishment of the South-Western Polytechnic	30th April, 1888.
The Charity Commissioners agree to the establishment of the Polytechnic	10th May, 1888.
The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P., gave £500 for the purchase of books ...	May, 1888.
Memorial Stone of the Library laid by the late Countess Cadogan	8th Feb., 1890.
Library opened by the Earl Cadogan, K.G. ...	21st Jan., 1891.
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened	4th Dec., 1899.
Public Libraries Commissioners' duties transferred to the Boroughs of Chelsea and Paddington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington	1st April, 1901.
Number of Volumes in the Library	46,412.
Number of Volumes issued 1906-7	223,079.
Total number issued since opening	2,987,058



THE LATE MR. DAVID H. HODGE, Chairman, 1891-1908.
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METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE
FOR
PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,
FOR THE
YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH 1908

LONDON:
PRINTED BY HUTCHINGS AND CROWSLEY, 123. FULHAM ROAD, S.W.

MAY, 1908.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums,

1907-8.

MR. DAVID H. HODGE, **Chairman** (until his death January 25th, 1908).

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH, **Chairman** (from February 3rd).

ALDERMAN THE HON. WM. SIDNEY, J.P., **Mayor**.

COUNCILLOR T. C. E. GOFF, J.P., L.C.C.

COUNCILLOR E. L. MEINERTZHAGEN,
J.P.

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

COUNCILLOR W. J. MULVEY.

MR. F. W. PROCTER, J.P.

COUNCILLOR P. A. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR T. J. ROBINSON.

MR. C. H. WARREN.

COUNCILLOR GEORGE WHITE.

COUNCILLOR MAJOR W. F. WOODS.

COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.

Librarian and Clerk to the Committee:

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarians: A. DENTON AND C. O. BALCOMBE.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Public Library.

TWENTY-FIRST ANNUAL REPORT, 1907-1908.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums submit the following report upon the work of the Public Library during the year ending 31st March, 1908, and in doing so are pleased to be able to record the continued steady growth of the Institution in usefulness and public appreciation.

THE LATE CHAIRMAN.

The Committee sustained a serious loss by the death of Mr. David H. Hodge, their Chairman, on 25th January, 1908. Mr. Hodge was appointed one of the Commissioners for Public Libraries in June, 1889, and elected Chairman of that body in July, 1891; this office he continued to hold until the abolition of the Commissioners under the provisions of the London Government Act of 1899. When, in 1900, the Vestry gave place to the Borough Council, Mr. Hodge was again placed upon the Public Libraries Committee. He was re-elected Chairman, and held the office until his death. At their meeting on the 3rd February, 1908, the Committee passed the following resolution:—

“That the members of this Committee desire to place on record their deep sense of the great loss sustained by the death of their esteemed friend and colleague, Mr. David H. Hodge, who for so many years has so admirably filled the Chair of this Committee, and by his whole-hearted and sympathetic interest and work in and for the Library so very largely contributed to making it the success that it now is.”

The Committee have had an enlarged photographic portrait of Mr. Hodge framed and placed in the Library to commemorate his services, and a reproduction of the portrait is, by permission of Messrs. W. and D. Downey, contained in this Report.

Councillor F. J. Welch, who had for some time acted as Deputy Chairman, was elected to succeed Mr. Hodge as Chairman.

ISSUE OF BOOKS.

The total issue of books during the year was 226,836, and is the highest yet recorded. Last year the issue was 223,079, and in the previous year 208,188. This increase of 3757 over last year is divided between the Lending Department and the Children's Rooms. The total represents a daily average issue of 749 volumes.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued in this Department was 61,852, showing a decrease of 566 volumes when compared with last year. A falling off is shown in the classes of Sociology (172), Language (277), Useful Arts (502), History (1684), and Works of General Reference (784); this is partly counter-balanced by increases in the classes of Philosophy (98), Religion (333), Science (1951), Fine Arts (89), and Literature (382). The daily average issue was 202 on week-days (10 a.m. to 10 p.m.), and 78 on Sundays (3 to 9 p.m.), as against 208 and 76 respectively during the previous year.

This Department continues to render excellent service to numbers of literary workers, to students of the many centres of advanced education in the neighbourhood, and to the general public. It is no uncommon thing for people to express their sense of the services rendered to them by the Library in their studies and research, and the work accomplished in this respect is much more valuable to the community than is generally supposed. The volumes on the shelves of this Department now number 20,151, and the stock of the Lending Library,

other than prose fiction, is also catalogued with the books of this Department, and is available for use except so far as the books may be in the hands of borrowers at the moment.

There has been an increased use made of the Reference Department by the teachers and lecturers of the adjoining South-Western Polytechnic, who are permitted to take books into the Polytechnic for teaching purposes, the number so issued being 172 as against 62 last year, and 151 the previous year.

A set of the Ordnance Survey Maps of England and Wales on a scale of one inch to the mile has been purchased for this Department, and the maps are placed in a cabinet where they may be used at will.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

The volumes issued in this Department numbered 123,823, an increase of 2645 over last year, this increase being spread over all classes, except Books for Children and the Miscellaneous Class, consisting of magazines in volumes. The falling off in Class J (Stories for Children) is no less than 2010. An examination of the records for past years shows that the issues in this class fluctuate considerably, though the opportunity has been taken to bring under the notice of children books other than story books likely to interest them, and this has been successful to some extent, the issues being credited to the classes to which these books belong. The circulation of story books for children has also been affected to a limited extent by the libraries now provided by the London County Council for all the elementary schools, these libraries containing a plentiful supply of such books. School libraries as a means of forming the habit of reading must in the end benefit the Public Library, which has advantages in providing a wider selection of books, greater freedom of choice, and the right to continue to borrow after school age. The percentage of novels issued remains much the same as last year, and is 32·68 per cent of the whole issues, or 59·8 of the Lending Library alone.

The number of borrowers' tickets issued during the year was 2970, consisting of 2361 Readers' Tickets, 467 Students' Tickets, and 142 Music Tickets. The number cancelled was 2908, viz., 2395 Readers' Tickets, 402 Students' Tickets, and 111 Music Tickets. This leaves 5620 tickets in use at the date of this Report, an increase of 62 over last year. The Students' Tickets in force include 141 issued to Students of the South-Western Polytechnic not residing in Chelsea, as against 147 such tickets last year.

The number of volumes in this Department is 27,251, or a net increase of 374 during the year. When reprinting the new catalogue, advantage was taken of the opportunity to revise the stock of books available for borrowing, and 693 volumes no longer in regular demand were transferred to the Reference Department, and 89 others, duplicate or obsolete, were withdrawn altogether. In addition 517 volumes worn out were withdrawn from circulation, and 26 volumes were destroyed by the Public Health Department under the arrangement made as a precaution against the spread of infection. Of these, 334 volumes were replaced, and 209 were cancelled in the stock books. Two books of small value were lost to the Library owing to the disappearance of borrowers and guarantors, and 10 books were lost and paid for by borrowers. Applications to the number of 732 were made to borrowers for the return of books kept much beyond the time allowed, and 25 books had to be specially sent for to secure their return. The result of the annual stocktaking was most satisfactory, but one book being missing, and this has since been found.

CATALOGUES.

The new catalogue of the Lending Department referred to in the last report was put upon sale at the nominal price of one shilling per copy, but the demand has been small, the number sold during the year being 335. The Committee have arranged with Messrs. Willis & Co. for the "Quarterly List" to be continued for a further period of two years. As a large edition of

this list, which contains the latest additions to the Lending Library, is distributed free of charge, this no doubt tells against the sale of the Catalogue, though it increases the usefulness of the Library.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

The statistics of the attendance in this Room based upon a monthly counting of the persons entering it and given in Table 4 show that it continues to increase in popularity. These figures give an average daily attendance of 1349, and represent a total attendance for the year of 385,814.

The Sunday attendance remains much the same, the average for the year being 319 per Sunday as against 317 last year, the attendance varying from 338 on 15th March to 214 on 8th September. There is a slight improvement in the attendance on the Bank Holidays, though in comparison with the ordinary attendance it barely justifies opening on these days. The Committee decided it was unnecessary to open the Reading Room on the 26th December (Boxing Day).

In order that the extent to which the Library is used by the public may be understood, the whole number of persons entering the building on 13th March was counted, when 1365 used the Reading Room, 420 came to the Lending Department, 108 to the Reference Department, 50 visited the galleries of Chelsea pictures, and 82 used the Children's Rooms—a total of 2025 visitors. The number of books issued was 785. Each visitor was credited to the department he first entered, and if he used more than one, as many did, this was ignored. The largest attendance in any hour was 277, from 7 to 8 p.m. Over the day it was divided as follows:—

9 a.m. to 1 p.m.	...	572
1 p.m. to 5 p.m.	...	511
5 p.m. to 10 p.m.	...	942

The list of the newspapers, periodicals, and magazines taken for this room has recently been revised, and among the additions made was a French newspaper ("L'Echo de Paris"), which has proved most acceptable.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

The total attendance recorded in the Children's Rooms during the year was 31,211, giving a daily average of 86. The total number of volumes issued was 41,161 (an increase of 1678 on last year), and represents a daily average of 114. Table 3 gives the classification of these volumes, and it will be seen that the reading is by no means limited to story books.

The room set apart for "home-lessons" continues to be well used, and the books provided in connection therewith have been in considerable demand. While many of the children are engaged in the usual work connected with their studies, yet most are occupied in solving questions set in "general knowledge" papers, and it would seem as if these questions were given to the children in order to induce them to use the Library. Such use at least serves to make children familiar with the handling of books for purposes of reference. The following are selected from the many questions quite small children have endeavoured to solve :—

"What is meant by the 'Scrambie for Africa'? What has England got?"

"What was the 'Truck Act,' and to what was it expected to put a stop?"

"What differences are there between a solicitor and a barrister?"

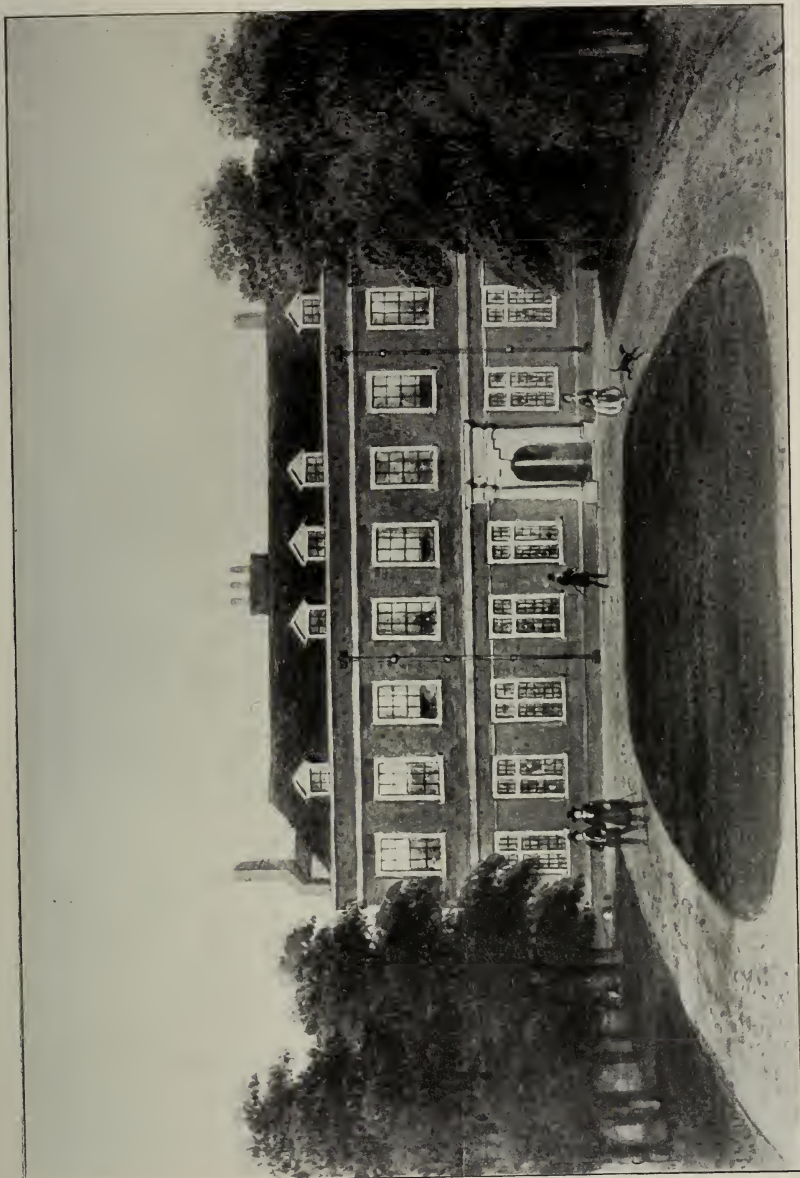
"What were the general conditions of peace which were agreed to by the Boers at Vereeniging?"

"What is the origin of the lines on the collar of a seaman in the British Navy, and why does he wear a black scarf on the blue suit?"

"What is Billingsgate, and why is coarse and bad language sometimes called Billingsgate?"

In the solution of these and many other questions the stock of books allotted to this Department has not always proved sufficient, and on many occasions it has been found necessary to draw upon the general resources of the Library when helping the children to books containing information for their papers.

The stock of books specially apportioned to this Department now numbers 1001 volumes, and a large proportion of it is of an educational character. Mr. Percy C. Morris has added to



THE PALACE OF THE BISHOPS OF WINCHESTER, CHELSEA (1664-1828).
(No. 56 in the Queen Victoria Gallery.)

his former gift of books for the children, and Mr. E. J. Horniman, M.P., has also given a number of books, as well as three attractive cases of mounted South American butterflies for the decoration of the room.

LOCAL COLLECTION.

A few items of Chelsea interest have been added during the year. Mr. J. Wenlock Rollins, Sculptor, presented a plaster cast of a bust of the late Lord Justice Sir John Rigby, who for a long time resided at Carlyle House, Chelsea Embankment, where he died in July, 1903. Mr. Rollins has also lent some of his other works for the decoration of the Reading Room.

Miss M. E. V. Cust, of Westminster, presented a letter written to her great great grandmother, Mrs. George Tate, by Dr. Messenger Monsey, the eccentric physician of Chelsea Hospital, on November 6th, 1772, the letter being mostly in rhyme.

The Committee purchased out of the Chelsea Commemoration Fund an etching by Mr. W. W. Burgess, from an oil painting of Cheyne Walk and the Old Church in 1817.

From the general funds was purchased a copy of the first edition of Faulkner's Chelsea, 1810, extra illustrated, and containing the original of "An accompt of the fire hearths and stoves within the parish of Chelsey for the half yeare at Michælmas, 1662," prepared for the purpose of the Hearth Tax by Christopher Harrell, the parish constable. From this document we learn that the Duke of Buckingham (Beaufort House) had 58 hearths, Lord Robartes (afterwards Earl of Radnor) 43, Sir Charles Stanley 11, and Charles Cheyne 31, the list giving all the houses in the parish, and affording some idea of their size from the number of hearths to be taxed.

Another book of local interest is a folio volume of "Sermons preached mostly upon publick occasions," by Adam Littleton, D.D., Rector of Chelsey, 1680, this copy bearing the inscription, "To the Honble ye Lady Gertrude Cheyne, his

honour'd Patroness, the Author humbly presents." The volume contains funeral sermons on Lady Jane Cheyne and Mrs. Mary Alston.

A manuscript copy of an "Act for disposing of Glebe Land to the Royal Military Asylum, Chelsea, 1815," was also purchased.

It may safely be asserted that the history of Chelsea cannot again be written without reference to the original sources of information now contained in the Library, and some of these documents correct errors in the histories already written. In this connection it may be mentioned that the books upon local and general history and upon costume have been largely utilized in connection with the forthcoming Chelsea Historical Pageant.

INSURANCE.

During the year the Committee have again considered the question of the fire insurance, and in view of the increasing value of the building and its contents have had the insurance policy revised, increasing the amount where it was deemed necessary. Sir Charles Dilke's collection of relics of the poet John Keats was also insured against theft of all kinds. In connection with the question of fire insurance, the stock-book of pictures and other art objects has been prepared in duplicate, and one of these books deposited in the strong-room at the Town Hall as a record in case of need.

THE LIBRARIAN.

The Committee at their meeting on 2nd December passed the following resolution:—

"That the members of the Public Libraries and Museums Committee beg to tender their sincere congratulations to Mr. Quinn on the completion of twenty years' service as Chief Librarian, and desire to place on record their appreciation of the valuable services he has rendered to the Borough in that capacity during so long a period."

Mr. Quinn was appointed Librarian in November, 1887, after training and service in the Liverpool Public Libraries.

GIFTS OF BOOKS.

The following is a list of the donors of books during the year, and to all of these the Committee have expressed their best thanks :—

Messrs. Abel and Imray; Mr. A. Abrahams; Society of Accountants and Auditors; Anglo-American Oil Co.; Anti-Vivisection Society; Mr. C. E. Baker; Banco Español del Río de la Plata; Baptist Union; Mr. Reginald Blunt; Borstal Association; British College of Physical Education; British Museum Trustees; British Phrenological Society; British South Africa Co.; Mr. A. C. Calmour; High Commissioner for Canada; Canadian Government (Department of Agriculture and Geological Survey); Mr. George Carter; Mr. George Chapman; Mrs. E. J. Chapman; City of London Corporation; Mr. T. G. Cooling; Co-operative Union, Ltd.; Lord Courtney of Penwith; Mrs. C. S. Cox; Miss A. M. Cust; Miss Cust; The Right Hon. Sir Chas. W. Dilke, Bart., M.P.; Mrs. T. P. Frame; Trustees of the Right Hon. W. E. Gladstone; Mr. Reginald Glossop; Mr. Owen E. Grant; Mr. A. Gray, K.C.; Mr. Harold Griffith; Harvard College, U.S.A.; Mr. P. Z. Herbert; Mr. D. Hipwell; Mr. E. J. Horniman, M.P.; Imperial Protestant Association; Mr. F. Keppel; Hon. Emily Lawless; Messrs. C. and E. Layton; Liverpool University; London College of Music; London County Council; London & North Western Railway; Lord's Day Observance Society; Mr. Sidney Low; Messrs. Mather and Crowther; Mr. A. C. Mead; Metropolitan Asylums Board; Mr. Percy C. Morris; National Union of Teachers; Agent-General for New South Wales; Mr. F. Nicholls; Agent-General for Nova Scotia; Mr. W. P. Paley; Messrs. J. and G. Paton; Mr. Edwin A. Pratt; Rev. T. Mardy Rees; Rev. F. Relton, F.K.C.; Mr. A. Llewelyn Roberts; Royal Colonial Institute; Royal National Lifeboat Institution; Mr. J. Holt Schooling; Mrs. M. Shekleton; Mr. F. M. Smith; Mr. W. Smith; The Principal of the South-Western Polytechnic; Mr. James Stevenson; Miss G. B. Stuart; Agent-General for Tasmania; Taunton

Town Council; Miss S. Taylor; Mrs. H. B. Taylor; Mr. Cecil Tennant; U.S. Bureau of Education; Universal Cookery and Food Association; Professor J. Westlake, K.C.; Mr. J. H. W. Wheeler; Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson; Mr. Wm. Willett; Dr. Henry Woodward.

NEWSPAPERS, &C., PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors:—

Accountant, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Anti-Slavery Reporter, Athenæum, Band of Mercy, Bird Notes and News, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British Architect, British Esperantist, Broad Arrow, Canadian Gazette, Century Path, Charity Organisation Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Christian, Christian Globe, Christian Science Journal, Christian Science Sentinel, Church Family Newspaper, Church Gazette, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerks of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Cook's Excursionist, Co-Partnership, Cowkeeper and Dairyman's Journal, Decorator, Drapers' Record, Educational Record, Educational Times, Englishwoman's Review, Epicure, Estates Gazette, Fireman, Food and Cookery, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Fulham Times, Garden City, Great Western Railway Magazine, Herald of Health, Herald of the Cross, Herald of the Golden Age, Humanitarian, Incorporated Accountants Journal, Indian Opinion, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Laundry Journal, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Chronicle, Local Government Journal, Local Government Officer, London Argus, London Crusader, London County Council Gazette, L.C.C. Workmen's Trains &c. Guide, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Manual Training Teacher, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Modern Society, Morley College Magazine, Motor Traction, Musical Herald, Musicians' Report and Journal, Natal Mercury, Nation in Arms, National Service Journal, Nature Notes, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Photographic News, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Printers' Register, Progressive Monthly (Johannesburg), Prohibitionist, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, Scraps, Socialist Standard, State Correspondent, Tailor and Cutter, Temperance Chronicle, Theosophical Quarterly, Timber Trades Journal, Tongues of Fire, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian Messenger, Vulcan, Wheatsheaf, Women's Industrial News, Woodworker, Zoophilist.

Besides the above, the following persons presented the periodicals named:—



LAWRENCE STREET AND THE CROSS KEYS TAVERN, 1836.

(No. 12 in Queen Victoria Gallery.)

Mr. George Carter : Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. E. Chambers : Bible in the World, Bible Society Gleanings. Chelsea Temperance Society : Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke : Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis : The English Churchman. Mr. L. Moon : Emmanuel, Chelsea, Parochial Magazine. Mr. James Stevenson, Galt, Ontario (formerly of Chelsea) : Various Canadian Newspapers. Professor Westlake, K.C. : Economic Journal, Journal of Hellenic Studies.

The Chelsea Borough Council and the London County Council have sent their Minutes of Proceedings as issued, and the railway companies supplied their time tables. Annual reports have been received from a number of public libraries.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1. SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—283½.		SUNDAYS. Days open—52.	
	Total vols. issued.	Daily average.	Total vols. issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	600	2	34	1
Religion	1923	7	125	2
Sociology	4748	17	286	5
Language	4861	17	440	8
Science	4872	17	252	5
Useful Arts	3879	14	267	5
Fine Arts	5241	19	410	8
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ...	5379	19	512	10
History, Biography, Travels	18486	65	1223	24
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.).....	7755	25	559	10
TOTAL	57,744	202	4108	78

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2. SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—283½.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	881	3
Religion	1799	6
Sociology	1866	7
Language	538	2
Science	2613	9
Useful Arts	2593	9
Fine Arts	4777	17
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ...	6489	23
History, Biography, Travels ...	12100	43
Books for Children	13930	49
Prose Fiction	74130	261
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.).....	2107	8
TOTAL	123,823	437

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5620.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

TABLE 3, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED, WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Open 309 evenings.	SUNDAYS. Open 52 evenings.
	Total volumes issued.	Total volumes issued.
Philosophy	4	...
Religion	56	13
Sociology	4004	466
Language	1244	6
Science	1543	344
Useful Arts	209	39
Fine Arts	547	108
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	1688	577
History, Biography, Travels	2662	750
Stories	12644	4174
Magazines and Periodicals (in vols.)	7612	2471
TOTAL	32,213	8948

READING ROOMS.

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING THE ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

		Total.
1907.		
Saturday, April 20th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) ...	1221
Monday, May 13th	(" ") ...	1191
Tuesday, June 18th	(" ") ...	1147
Wednesday, July 10th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	757
Thursday, August 15th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) ...	1152
Friday, September 20th	(" ") ...	1302
Saturday, October 19th	(" ") ...	1150
Monday, November 18th	(" ") ...	1399
Tuesday, December 10th	(" ") ...	1557
1908.		
Wednesday, January 15th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	973
Thursday, February 13th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.) ...	1498
Friday, March 13th	(" ") ...	1497

BANK HOLIDAYS.

Easter Monday, April 1st	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	219
Whit Monday, May 20th	(" ")	169
First Monday in August, August 5th	(" ")	149

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

The Reading Rooms were open on 52 Sundays, the total attendance being 16,630, giving an average of 319 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.).

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Children's Rooms.	Total.	Per cent.
Philosophy.....	634	881	4	1519	·67
Religion.....	2048	1799	69	3916	1·73
Sociology	5034	1866	4470	11370	5·01
Language	5301	338	1250	7089	3·12
Science	5124	2613	1887	9624	4·24
Useful Arts	4146	2593	248	6987	3·08
Fine Arts	5051	4777	655	11083	4·88
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5891	6489	2265	14645	6·46
History, Biography, Travels.....	19709	12100	3412	35221	15·53
Stories for Children .....	...	13930	16818	30748	13·56
Prose Fiction.....	...	74130	...	74130	32·68
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Encyclopædias, &c.).....	8314	2107	10083	20504	9·04
TOTAL.....	61,852	123,823	41,161	226,836	100·

TABLE 6, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	...	...	...	45,905
1891-92	...	...	...	157,693
1892-93	...	...	...	168,623
1893-94	...	...	...	179,456
1894-95	...	...	...	180,016
1895-96	...	...	...	170,834
1896-97	...	...	...	171,298
1897-98	...	...	...	168,853
1898-99	...	...	...	171,585
1899-1900	...	...	...	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	...	...	...	159,892
1901-2	...	...	...	184,650
1902-3	...	...	...	211,611
1903-4	...	...	...	216,590
1904-5	...	...	...	198,257
1905-6	...	...	...	208,188
1906-7	...	...	...	223,079
1907-8	...	...	...	226,836
TOTAL	...	...	...	3,213,894



THE WHITE STILES (now Royal Avenue) AND THE WHITE HART TEA GARDENS.
(No. 133 in the Queen Victoria Gallery.)

TABLE 7, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE STOCK OF BOOKS, BY DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference.	Lending.	Children's Rooms.	Total volumes in Library, 31st Mar. 1908.	Per cent.	Additions to the stock during the year
Philosophy	236	521	3	760	1'57	35
Religion	1125	1618	26	2769	5'72	90
Sociology.....	1998	1035	8	3641	7'52	190
Language.....	243	262	19	524	1'08	10
Science.....	1367	1289	81	2737	5'65	192
Useful Arts	1462	1033	19	2514	5'19	116
Fine Arts.....	1781	1532	8	3321	6'86	169
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	1775	2986	54	4815	9'95	195
History, Biography, Travels	6980	7217	143	14340	29'66	723
Stories for Children ...	...	2166	523	2689	5'55	107
Prose Fiction .....	...	6190	...	6190	12'78	167
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, Magazines, &c.)	3184	802	117	4103	8'47	1994 Less 3
TOTAL	20,151	27,251	1001	48,403	100	1991

FINANCIAL

Sums received and expended

	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1906-7				598	9	9½
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries Account)	...				3648	6	0
Fines and Penalties	73	12	9			
Other Receipts:—							
Sale of Catalogues, Tickets, &c.	49	10	8			
Bank Interest	17	17	8			
Income Tax retained		8	0			
						141	9 1

£4388 4 10½

CHELSEA COMMEMORA

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1906-7	16	8	4
	<u>16</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>4</u>

BEQUEST OF MRS.

Balance from 1906-7	£100	0	0
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STATEMENT.

under the Public Libraries Acts.

	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs and Maintenance :—							
Building and furniture repairs and improvements		292	14	3			
Cleaning, fuel and lighting		227	11	3½			
Rates and taxes, insurance		63	3	1			
					583	8	7½
Books, Newspapers, &c.		751	18	5			
Bookbinding and repairs		105	19	7			
Printing catalogues		288	18	0			
					1146	16	0
Salaries of Officers and Assistants					1216	15	0
Establishment charges, viz. :—							
Stationery and printing		73	7	11			
Carriage, postage, &c.		11	7	3			
Uniform clothing		8	6	6			
					93	1	8
Annual Payment to Paddington Borough Council under Financial Adjustment Scheme ...					300	0	0
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans :—							
Principal repaid :—							
To the London County Council		371	19	8			
Interest, including Income Tax :—							
To the London County Council		208	1	4			
					580	1	0
Total Expenditure					3920	2	3½
Balance at the end of the year					468	2	7
					£4388	4	10½

TION (1837-1897) FUND.

	£	s.	d.
Purchase of Chelsea Pictures, &c.	2	5	0
Balance	14	3	4
	£16	8	4

HENRIETTA YATES.

Balance in hand	£100	0	0
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J. HENRY QUINN,
Clerk to the Public Libraries Committee.

Memoranda.

Population of the Borough of Chelsea, Census 1901	73,842.
Estimated population, 1907	74,857.
Area of the Borough	659.6 acres.
Rateable Value of the Borough	£936,698.
Public Libraries Acts adopted... ..	May, 1887.
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887.
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall ...	7th Nov., 1887.
Librarian appointed	25th Nov., 1887.
The Earl Cadogan, K.G., gave the freehold of a site for the Library and £350 for the purchase of technical books	Feb., 1888.
Charity Commissioners received Deputation organized by the Chelsea Libraries Commissioners asking for the establishment of the South-Western Polytechnic, 30th April, 1888, and agree to the establishment of the Polytechnic	10th May, 1888.
The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P., gave £500 for the purchase of books	May, 1888.
Memorial Stone of the Library laid by the late Countess Cadogan... ..	8th Feb., 1890.
Library opened by the Earl Cadogan, K.G. ...	21st Jan., 1891.
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened	4th Dec., 1899.
Public Libraries Commissioners' duties transferred to the Boroughs of Chelsea and Paddington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington ...	1st April, 1901.
Number of Volumes in the Library	48,403.
Number of Volumes issued 1907-8	226,836.
Total number issued since opening	3,213,894.



THE ROYAL MILITARY ASYLUM AT CHELSEA.
For Soldiers Children of the Regular Army. — Intended for 500 Girls & 500 Boys.

METROPOLITAN
BOROUGH OF CHELSEA

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS,

FOR THE

YEAR ENDING 31st MARCH, 1909.

London :

WIGHTMAN & Co., LTD., OLD WESTMINSTER PRESS, REGENCY STREET, S.W.,
AND 43, ESSEX STREET, STRAND, W.C.

JUNE 1909.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums.

1908-9.

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH, *Chairman.*

COUNCILLOR THE REV. H. R. GAMBLE, M.A., *Mayor.*

ALDERMAN THE HON. WM. SIDNEY, *Ex-Mayor.*

COUNCILLOR T. C. E. GOFF, J.P., L.C.C.

COUNCILLOR E. L. MEINERTZHAGEN,
J.P.

MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.

COUNCILLOR W. J. MULVEY.

MR. F. W. PROCTER, J.P.

COUNCILLOR P. A. ROBINSON.

COUNCILLOR T. J. ROBINSON.

MR. C. H. WARREN

COUNCILLOR GEORGE WHITE.

COUNCILLOR MAJOR W. F. WOODS,
J.P.

COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.

Librarian and Clerk to the Committee :

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarians: A. DENTON AND C. O. BALCOMBE.

METROPOLITAN BOROUGH OF CHELSEA.

Public Library.

TWENTY-SECOND ANNUAL REPORT, 1908-9.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums have for several years past been in a position to report the gradual growth of the Library in popular favour and usefulness. They are pleased, in submitting their Annual Report for the year ending 31st March, 1909, to record that this satisfactory state of affairs continues.

TOTAL ISSUE OF BOOKS.

The issue of books during the year was no less than 239,950 volumes, as against 226,836 last year, which was then the highest recorded in the history of the Library. This is an increase of 13,114 volumes, the total giving a daily average issue of 855, as compared with 749 last year.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued in this Department was 60,880, or 972 less than last year. This decrease is mainly accounted for by the Reference Library being open three days less than last year. It is spread over the various classes of literature into which the Library is divided, except Philosophy, Sociology, the Useful Arts (Technology), and Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays), in which there were increases of 216, 610, 37, and 474 respectively. The daily average issue

of books was 201 on week-days and 86 on Sundays, as against 202 and 78 last year.

More volumes were taken from this Department for class use by the Teachers and Lecturers of the South-Western Polytechnic, the number being 238, as against 172 last year.

Though the number of books issued in this department shows no increase, this fact does not indicate any diminution in its usefulness. An examination of any day's work would show how largely it is used for purposes of serious study and research, as well as for casual reference. The privileges of this department of the Library cannot be limited to Chelsea residents, as is the case in the Lending Library, and accordingly a certain amount of fluctuation in the work done must be expected.

At the request of the Secretary of the South-Western Polytechnic Literary Society, books bearing on the subjects of lectures given before the Society have been exhibited on each occasion. The subjects illustrated during the time this arrangement was in operation were Bohemia, Lord Tennyson, Oxford, and Switzerland and the Alps.

The number of volumes now on the shelves of the Reference Library is 21,283, an increase of 1,132 during the year. All books upon the premises, other than fiction, are available for reference.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

The small falling-off in the issues of the Reference Department is more than compensated for by the increase in the work of the Lending Department. Last year an increase of 2,645 volumes was reported in the number of books lent for home reading, and this year a further increase is shown of 4,224 volumes, and this in face of the fact that this Department was open on three days less than last year. The total issue was 128,047 volumes, as against 123,823 last year, and 121,178 the year before. This increase is again spread over all classes of literature, with the exception of class D (Language) and J (Books for Children).

It is satisfactory to note that the Library is becoming more and more recognised as established for the benefit and use of the whole community of Chelsea, and not for a particular, because poor, section of it. All classes contribute to its upkeep, and therefore all classes are entitled to use it. The erroneous idea that a public library is a philanthropic institution is being gradually dissipated, and all classes now avail themselves of its advantages.

It is a matter of some regret that there is a further falling off in the issue of books from Class J (Stories for Children), the decrease being 1,075, following upon a decrease of 2,010 last year. The number of children who come to the Library is seemingly as great, though there are several causes for a smaller issue of children's books. One of the principal reasons was the removal of the girls of the Secondary Day School from the South-Western Polytechnic to the new schools in Hortensia Road, as these girls were "omnivorous devourers" of story books. Few, if any, of these girls have been lost to the Library as readers, but as they are not now passing the doors several times a day they do not exchange the books so frequently. The recent clearances of the smaller houses in the neighbourhood of the Library has also had some effect, but, as stated in last year's report, the principal cause is to be found in the improvements in the stock of story books furnished to the libraries of the elementary schools.

Owing to the appreciation shown by borrowers of the two show-cases already placed upon the Lending Library counter a third case has been added. In these cases new books and those bearing upon topics of the day are displayed for the benefit of those who are not in quest of any particular book. Many borrowers select their books altogether from these cases.

There is again a small reduction in the percentage of fiction issued, which is now 31.67 per cent. of the whole issues, or 59.3 of the Lending Department, which is the only De-

partment issuing this class of literature. Last year the percentages were 32.68 and 59.8.

The number of borrowers' tickets granted during the year was 2,936, consisting of 2,329 Readers' Tickets, 457 Students' Tickets, and 150 Music Tickets. The number cancelled was 2,721, viz., 2,239 Readers' Tickets, 379 Students' Tickets, and 103 Music Tickets. This leaves 5,835 tickets in force at the date of this report, an increase of 215 over last year. The Students' Tickets include 140 issued to Students of the South-Western Polytechnic not residing in Chelsea, as against 141 such tickets last year.

The number of volumes now available for home reading is 29,168, an increase of 1,917 on last year. The volumes worn out and withdrawn from circulation numbered 462, besides 21 volumes destroyed by the Public Health Department, under the precautions taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease. Of these books 267 were replaced and 216 were cancelled in the stock books. Applications to the number of 610 were made to borrowers and guarantors for the return of books kept much beyond the time allowed. At the annual stocktaking only two books (of the value of 5s. 4d.) were unaccounted for.

CATALOGUES.

A new edition of the Catalogue of Music and Musical Literature was prepared and printed, the previous edition being sold out. The "Quarterly List" of new additions has been continued regularly, and is greatly appreciated. The number for October, 1908, contained a complete list of books on Chemistry and Chemical Technology. The price of the General Catalogue of the Lending Library was reduced to sixpence in October, and an increase in the sales has resulted. The sale of Catalogues of all kinds is very small in proportion to the number of readers and in view of the merely nominal price at which the catalogues can be obtained.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

The attendance in this room, where the newspapers, magazines, periodicals, and directories are placed, is shown by Table 4. The figures give an average daily attendance of 1,306, representing a total attendance for the year on week-days of 407,550. The total Sunday attendance was 15,891, or an average of 311 per Sunday, as against 319 last year. There is no improvement in the attendance on the Bank Holidays, when this room is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the average attendance being 133, as against 179 last year.

The notice boards in the entrances have been utilised for announcements in connection with educational institutions, emigration information, recruiting for the regular and territorial army, and official employment agencies.

The floor of this room having become much worn from the large traffic, its repair became necessary, and it has now been covered with linoleum, which is more easily kept clean and repaired.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

The total attendance in the Children's Rooms during the year was 32,044, as against 31,211 last year. This gives an average of 90 per evening (5 to 9 p.m.). The number of volumes issued was 51,023, as against 41,161 last year, an increase of 9,862, representing a daily average issue of 143 volumes. The classification of these volumes is given in Table 3, and owing to the large use made of the books by school children for "general knowledge" papers, it will be seen that those issued are not wholly story books. In their last report the Committee gave some specimens of the questions which children attempt to solve in the Children's Room, and the following are a few more typical examples taken from those set during the year:—

For what purposes do cows, squirrels, and rabbits use their tails?

Who wrote "Water Babies," "The Last of the Mohicans," "Round the World in Eighty Days," "Uncle Tom's Cabin," "The Last Days of Pompeii," and "The Old Curiosity Shop"?

What was the name of the first steamer to cross the Atlantic, and what is the present record?

What is the meaning of "To show the white feather"?

What is a blue-bottle, a "blue stocking," a bluebell, a Blue Peter, the Blue Coat School, Blue John, blue water, true blue, "blue ruin," blue blood, blue stone, and a blue gown?

What are preventable diseases? What is one of the chief causes of preventable diseases?

Name the various governing bodies in your town or neighbourhood. What Acts of Parliament brought any of these into existence?

Name the kinds of teeth and the number of each you should have.

Such questions, besides adding to the children's stock of knowledge, serve a valuable purpose in teaching the children the use of books as sources of information.

LECTURES TO CHILDREN.

When the Children's Rooms were provided, it was intended that one of them should be utilised for occasional lantern lectures of an instructive character, and likely to guide the children in their reading. Accordingly in January the Committee arranged for an experimental series of such lectures, and these proved so successful that the Committee have under consideration the advisability of making them a permanent feature of the work of the Library, especially as they can be carried on free of cost to the Library rate. The lecturers were good enough to give their services free, and Mr. T. G. Cooling most kindly lent a suitable lantern and showed the slides. The following is a list of the lectures given and the attendance at each of them :—

Jan. 15.—Mr. E. J. Horniman, M.P.	"Japan"	...	205
Feb. 12.—Miss Richardson.	"A Tour Round the World"	... ..	209
„ 26.—Miss A. E. Keeton.	"Stories from the Russian fabulist Kryloff"	... ..	185
Mar. 12.—Mr. Stanley Kemp-Welch, jun.	"The Sun and some Members of his large family"	...	194
„ 16.—Miss K. M. Hall, Curator, Stepney Borough Museum.	"Bees"	... ..	203
„ 26.—Miss C. Agutter.	"Things seen in America"	...	220

Owing to the size of the room the attendance had to be restricted.



HOUSE OF J. M. W. TURNER, R.A., CHEYNE WALK, 1852.
From a water-colour drawing by Archer (No. 773).

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.

In January the Committee received a letter from the Education Department of the London County Council upon the subject of promoting and extending the co-operation between the public libraries and the public elementary schools. To this letter the following schedule of questions was attached :—

(1) What arrangements, if any, have been made by your borough council with regard to the special supply of books to head teachers of public elementary schools (*a*) for their own use, and (*b*) for the use of the children in the school?

(2) What arrangements, if any, have been made by your borough council in connection with (*a*) the organisation of a separate juvenile section for children's books, (*b*) the provision of a separate children's room?

(3) What arrangements, if any, have been made by your borough council for the co-optation of teachers either upon the library committee or upon sub-committees of the library committee?

(4) What arrangements, if any, are now in contemplation by your borough council, with a view to the further promotion of co-operation between the library and the public elementary schools, and the fuller utilisation of the library books by the children in the school?

(5) Does your borough council desire to propose to the Council any additional arrangements for securing further co-operation between the library and the schools in the borough?

The Committee's reply to this letter was as follows :—

I am directed by the Public Libraries Committee to inform you that they have had under consideration your letter of the 4th ult. on the subject of co-operation between the public libraries and the public elementary schools.

From the first founding of the Public Library in 1887 provision for children in connection with the Library has been a prominent and essential feature of the Institution.

The following are replies to the questions raised in the schedule attached to your letter :—

(1) Special facilities are given to teachers of Chelsea schools for the use of the Library, and they are allowed to use the Lending Library whether resident in Chelsea or not. Every consideration is given to the needs of teachers who may require a number of books for teaching purposes, over thirty books at a time to a single teacher having been so lent. The enclosed circular letter was sent some time ago to the head teacher of each department in every school in Chelsea, and a similar letter is sent to any new head teacher coming into the borough. Copies of the Library catalogue are supplied (free) for reference to each department of all Chelsea schools.

(2A) There has always been a separate juvenile section of the Lending Department containing an ample supply of children's books, and the rules have no age limit or restrictions to debar children from the full use of the Lending Library. A copy of the last edition of the separate catalogue of the children's section is sent herewith.

(2B) When the Library was built in 1890 a specially designed Boys' Reading Room formed part of the Institution, and this continued in use until it was found desirable to increase the accommodation for children generally. Two rooms were prepared for the purpose at a net cost of £1,020, and opened in December, 1905. One of these rooms is a reading room with a plentiful supply of suitable books, and the other is for the accommodation of children engaged in their school preparation work, and here lantern lectures are given to arouse the interest of children in various subjects, and to induce them to read thereon. Both these rooms have proved most attractive and successful. The following extract from the Annual Report of the Committee, 1905-6, gives further particulars.

(Here follows an extract descriptive of the rooms and their arrangements.)

(3) No special arrangement has been made for the co-optation of teachers upon the Library Committee, and no necessity has been found for such an arrangement. It may, however, be stated that from 1891 until this date head teachers have been chairmen of the Public Libraries Committee, viz., the late Mr. D. H. Hodge, of Cook's Ground School, 1891-1908, and Mr. F. J. Welch, of Christ Church School, the present Chairman.

(4 and 5) The Committee consider that they are doing all that can possibly be expected from them on this matter, and they intend to continue their policy of making the Library useful alike to teachers and children. At the same time, they wish to emphasise the views expressed in the following extracts taken from their recent annual reports :—

“The present custom of providing libraries in the schools may be good enough as far as it goes, but it is when the boys and girls leave school that their reading requires to be continued, and this can be better brought about by the Public Library getting the children into the habit of making use of it as an auxiliary to their studies and for general reading while at school. When the children leave school their connection with the School Library ceases, and probably the reading habit is broken, while if the boy or girl is encouraged to use the Library during the period of attendance at school, though the connection with the school be broken, the use of the Library is continuous.”

“The circulation of story books for children has also been affected to a limited extent by the libraries now provided by the London County Council for all the elementary schools, these libraries containing a plentiful supply of such books. School libraries as a means of forming the habit of reading must in the end benefit the Public Library, which has advantages in providing a wider selection of books, greater freedom of choice, and the right to continue to borrow after school age.”

The Committee would further commend to the notice of the Education Committee the following extract from their Annual Report, 1905-6, with a view to the Education Committee extending these visits, which are likely to prove of mutual help :—

“Upon the recommendation of H.M. Inspector of Schools for the district (E. T. Campagnac, Esq.), several parties of children visited the Library in school hours as part of their work, arrangements being made beforehand by the teachers and at their request. The Librarian received the children, and pointed out the most interesting features of the Institution, especially the portraits of historical and literary celebrities of national importance connected with Chelsea, and pictures of the houses they lived in, exhibited in the Queen Victoria Gallery. The advantages of using the Library were also emphasised, and no doubt these visits have proved useful to the Schools and the Library, and they certainly gave pleasure to the children.”

In connection with the educational side of the work of the Library, perhaps it may be well to quote here a paragraph from an address given by the Chairman, Councillor F. J. Welch, before the Chelsea Educational Council, which briefly describes the position which a Public Library should occupy with regard to the existing educational institutions of the locality :—

“Public Libraries can and should be utilised as an integral and important part of our educational system. Besides providing the public with general reading, supplying information, catering for students of every description, and affording opportunity for research work, they should occupy a position closely in touch with every educational institution in their locality, should study the requirements of both their teachers and scholars, and should be, in fact, the common library for the whole of them.”

The Committee believe that the Chelsea Public Library is fulfilling this duty. So far as the Polytechnic, the chief centre of University and technical education in the Borough, is concerned, the Library has always laid itself out specially to meet its needs, and has practically occupied the position of the Polytechnic Library, so closely has it met the demands of the teachers engaged in the establishment. The students and staff of Chelsea's other two principal educational institutions, Whitelands College and St. Mark's College, make good use of the Library. It is also of the greatest possible service to the many students of the

Royal School of Mines, the Imperial Colleges of Science and Art, and the City and Guilds Technical Institute, who reside within the borough. The students of the Training College for Military Schoolmasters attached to the Duke of York's School, soon* to be removed from among us, are frequent visitors to the Library. The work done in connection with primary education has been already described in detail in the replies sent to the questions of the London County Council.

VISITS OF SOCIETIES.

During the year organised visits to the Library have been paid by members of the Balham Antiquarian Society, Toynbee Hall Antiquarian Society, North Camberwell Readers' Union, Walthamstow Technical Institute, and the Unity Church Observation Society. The Chelsea Educational Council held a meeting in one of the Children's Rooms, when Councillor Welch, Chairman of the Library Committee, read a paper on "Public Libraries and Education, with special reference to the work of the Chelsea Public Library," from which a quotation appears above.

LOCAL COLLECTION.

Some further additions have been made to this collection during the year. At the time of the Chelsea Historical Pageant the various circulars, newspaper cuttings, photographs, and other items bearing upon its progress were collected and mounted into volumes to form as complete a record as possible of the event. For the purpose of these volumes Mr. Tom Heslewood, the designer of the pageant costumes, gave a number of his original coloured drawings. The Pageant Committee also arranged with Mr. John Cameron, the designer of the well-known Charles II. pageant poster, to give the original pastel drawing of the poster to the Library, and this has been framed and hung in the Reading Room.

In accordance with custom, and by request, the ex-

Mayor, Alderman the Hon. Wm. Sidney, presented a framed photograph of himself in his robes of office as Mayor.

The Committee have purchased, from the Chelsea Commemoration Fund, an etching of "Cheyne Walk, with the Magpie and Stump, in 1871," by the late Mr. W. W. Burgess, R.E.

Mrs. A. C. Mead presented to the Library a large drawing, formerly belonging to her father, the late Mr. H. H. Burnell, F.S.A., of the head of Sir Thomas More, as seen in 1715 in the Chapel of St. Dunstan's Church, Canterbury.

Besides these pictures, the Library acquired a number of local deeds of historic interest, ranging in date from 1617 to 1820. The earliest is a release by Thomas, Earl of Lincoln, to Sir John Danvers of "capital messuage called Morehouse," afterwards called Buckingham House and Beaufort House, the owners being the Gorges, the Earl of Middlesex, Dukes of Buckingham, etc.; this deed confirms the fact of Beaufort House having been More's residence. The others are: (2) Sale of land on the riverside by Gregory and Martha forth to Sir John Danvers, November, 1624. (3) An enfeoffment to Lord Cornbury, Sir Allen Apsley, etc., of land called Dovehouse Close, adjoining Beaufort House, 1668. (4) Lease of the site of Danvers House from Lord Wharton and Benjamin Stallwood, 1696. (5) Lease of the site of the present Lawrence Street for one year from Sir Thomas Laurence to his son, 1705. (6-8) Three deeds relating to the acquisition of the Manor of Chelsea by Sir Hans Sloane from the Cheynes, etc., 1712-1716. (9) Abstract of title to the Manor and Advowson of Chelsea, 1712-1802. (10) Lease of glebe land south of the King's Road, by the Rev. W. Bromley Cadogan, to executors of Stephen Le Maistre, 1788; this has a plan of the land leased and signatures of the Bishop of London, Lord Cadogan, Christopher D'Oyly, Earl of Buckingham, etc. (11) Lease of three old cottages, with land adjoining, in Lordshipp-Yard, from William, Lord Cheyne, Lord of the Manor, to John

Clarkson, for 99 years, 1706; plan attached. (12) Lease of ground and buildings in Cadogan Place and Little Cadogan Place to Wm. Whitehead, 1814; the plan shows the Westbourne Stream as one of the boundaries. (13) Lease from Stephen Riley to John Newson of six houses in Davis Place, 1815; this deed suggests the naming of Riley Street, the Rising Sun Brewery at this spot was later in the occupation of Newson. (14) Lease by the Committee of Charles Henry, Lord Cadogan, Sarah D'Oyly, and Rev. Gerald V. Wellesley, of glebe land east of the Rectory garden, to John Otridge, 1820; the plan shows a right of way to the King's Road through this land, and locates the residence of Miss E. Gulston, the artist.

In September an application was received from the Rev. S. P. T. Prideaux, of Chelsea Old Church, asking that the carved wood boss taken from the old Church in 1857, and presented to the Library in 1894 by the late Mr. H. H. Burnell, F.S.A., be restored to the Church, as a suitable place could now be found for it. The Committee, with the approval of Mr. Burnell's family, complied with Mr. Prideaux's request.

LIBRARY LAND.

Under the deed of exchange of land made between the Borough Council and the Cadogan Estate in 1904 the Public Libraries Committee have taken over and fenced in the land acquired by the Library at the expiration of the leasehold interests at Christmas last.

GIFTS OF BOOKS.

The following is a list of the donors of books during the year, and to each of these the Committee have expressed their best thanks:—

Central Association of Accountants; Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors; Agent-General for Australia; Mr. Thomas W. Balch; Baptist Union; Mrs. de Benitua; Birmingham Free Libraries; Mrs. M. J. J. Bleack-

ley; Mr. Reginald Blunt; British and Foreign Unitarian Society; British College of Physical Education; Lady Buxton; Canadian Government (Department of the Interior and Geological Survey); High Commissioner for Canada; Mr. F. Canali; Mr. George Carter; Mr. E. Beresford Chancellor; Chelsea Historical Pageant Committee; Clacton Advancement Association; Co-operative Union, Ltd.; The Rt. Hon. Lord Courtney of Penwith; Mrs. C. S. Cox; Mr. A. J. Dawson, The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P.; East End Emigration Fund; Prof. Hugh E. Egerton, M.A.; Mrs. W. Farside; First Church of Christ Scientist, Sloane Terrace; Mrs. Wickham Flower; Mrs. A. E. Fraser; Mr. W. J. Furnivall; Mrs. Gates; Miss L. H. Gossett; Mr. A. Gray, K.C.; Hammersmith Borough Council; Miss Florence Harrison; Harvard College, U.S.A.; Mr. D. Hipwell; Mr. H. K. Hudson; Institute Internationale de Bibliographie, Brussels; Messrs. C. and E. Layton; Mr. Arthur F. Leach; Leeds University; Leigh Browne Endowment; Mrs. C. E. Barrett-Lennard; Messrs. Lenygon and Co., Ltd.; London County Council; L.C.C. School of Photoengraving and Lithography; London Directory Co., Ltd.; London University; Mr. Sidney J. Low; Mr. S. B. G. McKinney; Sir William Mather; Metropolitan Asylums Board; Messrs. C. Mitchell and Co.; Mr. Percy C. Morris; National Boiler Insurance Co.; High Commissioner for New Zealand; Norwich Corporation; Department of Mines, Ottawa; Dr. J. Foster Palmer; Messrs. J. and J. Paton; Lord Peckover of Wisbech; Mr. Geo. J. Planinsky; Miss A. F. M. Potter; Rev. S. P. T. Prideaux, M.A.; Mr. Geo. L. Raymond; Research Defence Society; Mr. Ralph Richardson; Mr. F. J. Ronald; Royal Colonial Institute; Mr. J. Holt Schooling; Editor of the Science Year Book; Mr. J. B. Scott; "Senex"; Mr. E. Shorthouse; Messrs. Simpkin, Marshall and Co.; Mr. Wm. Simpson; Mr. F. W. Speaight; Mr. Ludwig Spitzer; Stoke Newington Public Library; Rev. Henry J. Swallow; Miss Tait; Tonic Sol-fa College; Trinity College of Music; Mrs. Anthony Trollope; Miss M. Turrell;

U.S. Bureau of Education; University Tutorial Press; Mr. B. W. Warhurst; Mr. A. Weiner; Prof. J. Westlake, K.C.; Yorkshire Parish Register Society.

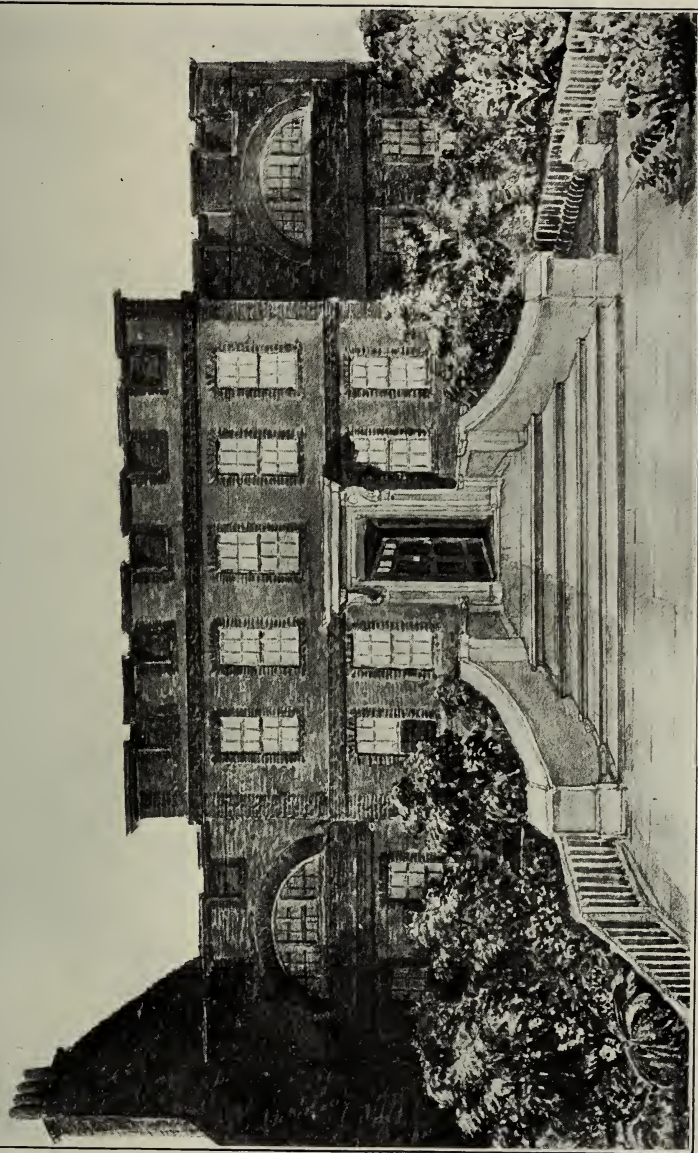
NEWSPAPERS, &C., PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors:—

Accountant, Advertising World, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Anti-Slavery Reporter, Associated Accountants' Journal, Athenæum, Band of Mercy, Bird Notes and News, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British Architect, Broad Arrow, Canadian Gazette, Century Path, Charity Organisation Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Christian, Christian Globe, Christian Science Journal, Christian Science Sentinel, Church Family Newspaper, Church Gazette, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerks of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Conservative and Unionist, Cook's Excursionist, Co-Partnership, Cowkeeper and Dairyman's Journal, Decorator, Drapers' Record, Educational Record, Educational Times, Englishwoman's Review, Epicure, Estates Gazette, Food and Cookery, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Fulham Times, Garden City, Great Western Railway Magazine, Herald of Health, Herald of the Cross, Herald of the Golden Age, Humanitarian, Incorporated Accountants Journal, Individualist, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Jewish Intelligence, Kensington News, Laundry Journal, Liberal Monthly, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Chronicle, Local Government Journal, Local Government Officer, London Argus, London Crusader, London County Council Gazette, L.C.C. Workmen's Trains, etc. Guide, London Temperance Times, Machinery Market, Manual Training Teacher, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Modern Society, Morley College Magazine, Motor Traction, Musical Herald, Musicians' Report and Journal, Natal Mercury, Nation in Arms, National Service Journal, Nature Notes, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Phrenologist, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Practical Engineer, Printers' Register, Progressive Monthly (Johannesburg), Prohibitionist, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, Socialist Standard, State Correspondent, Temperance Chronicle, Theosophical Quarterly, Timber Trades Journal, Tongues of Fire, Trade Protection Journal, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian Messenger, Vulcan, Wheatsheaf, Women's Industrial News, Woodworker, Zoophilist.

Besides the above, the following persons presented the periodicals named:—

Mr. George Carter: Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society.



HOUSE OF THE 3RD EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, FULHAM ROAD, 1700.
From a water-colour drawing (No. 51).

Mr. E. Chambers: Bible in the World, Bible Society Gleanings. Chelsea Temperance Society: Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke: Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis: The English Churchman. Mr. L. Moon: Emmanuel, Chelsea, Parochial Magazine. Mr. James Stevenson, Galt, Ontario (formerly of Chelsea): Various Canadian Newspapers. Professor Westlake, K.C.: Economic Journal, Journal of Hellenic Studies.

The Chelsea Borough Council and the London County Council have sent their Minutes of Proceedings as issued, and the railway companies supplied their time-tables. Annual reports have been received from a number of public libraries.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—280½.		SUNDAYS. Days open—51.	
	Total vols. issued.	Daily average.	Total vols. issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	800	3	50	1
Religion	1,784	6	122	2
Sociology	5,268	19	376	7
Language	4,052	15	422	8
Science	4,425	14	272	5
Useful Arts	3,962	16	221	4
Fine Arts	5,204	19	418	8
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5,828	21	537	11
History, Biography, Travels ..	17,850	64	1,360	27
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	7,300	24	629	13
TOTAL	56,473	201	4,407	86

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—280½.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	1,121	4
Religion	2,151	8
Sociology	2,297	8
Language	475	2
Science	2,968	11
Useful Arts	2,829	10
Fine Arts	4,867	17
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ..	7,003	25
History, Biography, Travels	13,922	50
Books for Children	12,855	46
Prose Fiction	75,972	270
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.)	1,587	5
TOTAL	128,047	456

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—5,835.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

TABLE 3, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Open 309 evenings.	SUNDAYS. Open 51 evenings.
	Total volumes issued.	Total volumes issued.
Philosophy	3	—
Religion	42	13
Sociology	7,028	701
Language	1,980	37
Science	2,911	600
Useful Arts	488	37
Fine Arts	1,519	465
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	2,734	753
History, Biography, Travels	4,287	1,005
Stories	8,025	2,174
Magazines and Periodicals (in vols.)	12,337	3,884
TOTAL	41,354	9,669

READING ROOMS.

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING THE
ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

1908.				Total.
Saturday, April 25th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	..	..	1,128
Monday, May 18th	( " " )	..	..	1,168
Tuesday, June 23rd	( " " )	..	..	1,214
Wednesday, July 15th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	..	..	845
Thursday, August 13th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	..	..	1,378
Friday, September 18th	( " " )	..	..	1,467
Saturday, October 17th	( " " )	..	..	1,354
Monday, November 23rd	( " " )	..	..	1,651
Tuesday, December 15th	( " " )	..	..	1,598
1909.				
Wednesday, January 27th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	..	..	754
Thursday, February 18th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	..	..	1,622
Friday, March 19th	( " " )	..	..	1,496

BANK HOLIDAYS.

Easter Monday, April 20th	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	..	151
Whit Monday, June 8th	(" ")	..	136
First Monday in August, August 3rd	(" ")	..	113

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

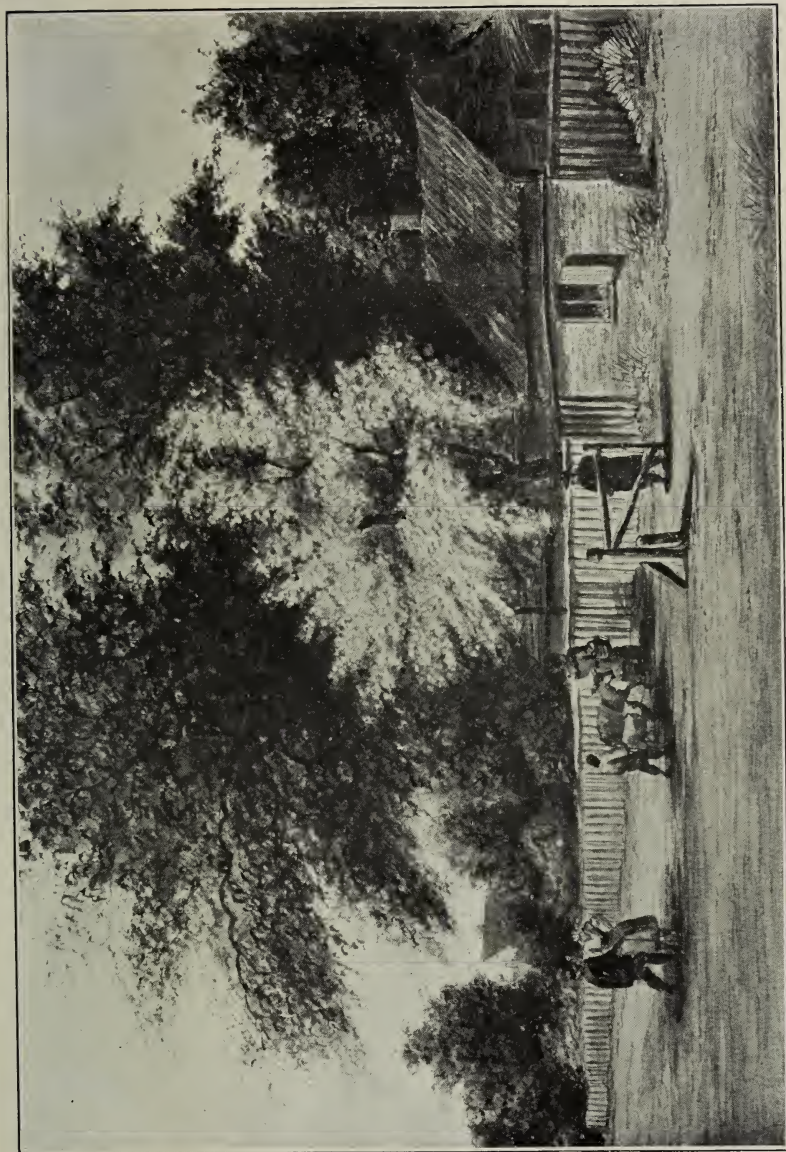
The Reading Rooms were open on 51 Sundays, the total attendance being 15,891, giving an average of 311 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.).

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Children's Rooms.	Total.	Per cent.
Philosophy	850	1,121	3	1,974	·82
Religion	1,906	2,151	55	4,112	1·71
Sociology	5,644	2,297	7,729	15,670	6·54
Language	4,474	475	2,017	6,966	2·90
Science	4,697	2,968	3,511	11,176	4·66
Useful Arts	4,183	2,829	525	7,537	3·14
Fine Arts	5,622	4,867	1,984	12,473	5·19
Literature, (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ..	6,365	7,003	3,487	16,855	7·03
History, Biography, Travels	19,210	13,922	5,292	38,424	16·01
Stories for Children ..	—	12,855	10,199	23,054	9·60
Prose Fiction	—	75,972	—	75,972	31·67
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Encyclopædias, &c.)	7,929	1,587	16,221	25,737	10·73
TOTAL	60,880	128,047	51,023	239,950	100·00

TABLE 6, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	45,905
1891-92	157,693
1892-93	168,623
1893-94	179,456
1894-95	180,016
1895-96	170,834
1896-97	171,298
1897-98	168,853
1898-99	171,585
1899-1900	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st) ..	159,892
1901-2	184,650
1902-3	211,611
1903-4	216,590
1904-5	198,257
1905-6	208,188
1906-7	223,079
1907-8	226,836
1908-9	239,950
TOTAL	<u>3,453,844</u>



VIEW IN THE KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, 1820.
From a water-colour drawing by Wm. P. Sherlock (No. 772).

TABLE 7, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE STOCK OF BOOKS BY DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference	Lending.	Children's Rooms.	Total volumes in Library, 31st Mar. 1909.	Per cent.	Additions to the stock during the year.
Philosophy	245	635	3	883	1.71	123
Religion	1,193	1,740	29	2,962	5.75	193
Sociology	2,102	1,821	9	3,932	7.63	291
Language	248	295	19	562	1.09	38
Science	1,470	1,434	82	2,986	5.8	249
Useful Arts	1,536	1,133	19	2,688	5.22	174
Fine Arts	1,916	1,616	8	3,540	6.87	219
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ...	1,871	3,148	64	5,083	9.87	268
History, Biography, Travels	7,447	7,794	151	15,392	29.87	1,052
Stories for Children	—	2,265	559	2,824	5.48	135
Prose Fiction	—	6,470	—	6,470	12.56	280
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, Magazines, &c.)	3,255	817	129	4,201	8.15	98
TOTAL	21,283	29,168	1,072	51,523	100.00	3,120

FINANCIAL

Sums received and expended

	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1907-8				468	2	7
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries Account)					3,636	0	0
Fines and Penalties	74	3	0½			
Other Receipts :—							
Sale of Catalogues, Tickets, &c.	42	11	3½			
Bank Interest	17	9	2			
					134	3	6

£4,238 6 1

CHELSEA COMMEMORA

	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1907-8	14	3	4
Bequest of Mrs. Henrietta Yates	100	0	0
Bank Interest	2	0	9
	£116	4	1

STATEMENT.

under the Public Libraries Acts.

EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs and Maintenance :—						
Building and furniture repairs and improve-						
ments	170	18	10½			
Cleaning, fuel and lighting	252	17	7½			
Rates and taxes, insurance	50	9	4			
				474	5	10
Books, Newspapers, &c.	932	13	9½			
Bookbinding and repairs	91	15	4			
Printing Catalogues	26	12	2			
				1,051	1	3½
Salaries of Officers and Assistants				1,235	4	0
Establishment charges, viz. :—						
Stationery and printing	28	4	4			
Carriage, postage, &c.	11	16	1			
Uniform clothing	8	6	6			
				48	6	11
Annual Payment to Paddington Borough Council						
under Financial Adjustment Scheme				300	0	0
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans :—						
Principal repaid :—						
To the London County Council	385	3	5			
Interest, including Income Tax :—						
To the London County Council	194	17	7			
				580	1	0
Total Expenditure				3,688	19	0½
Balance at the end of the year				549	7	0½
				£4,238	6	1

TION (1837-1897) FUND.

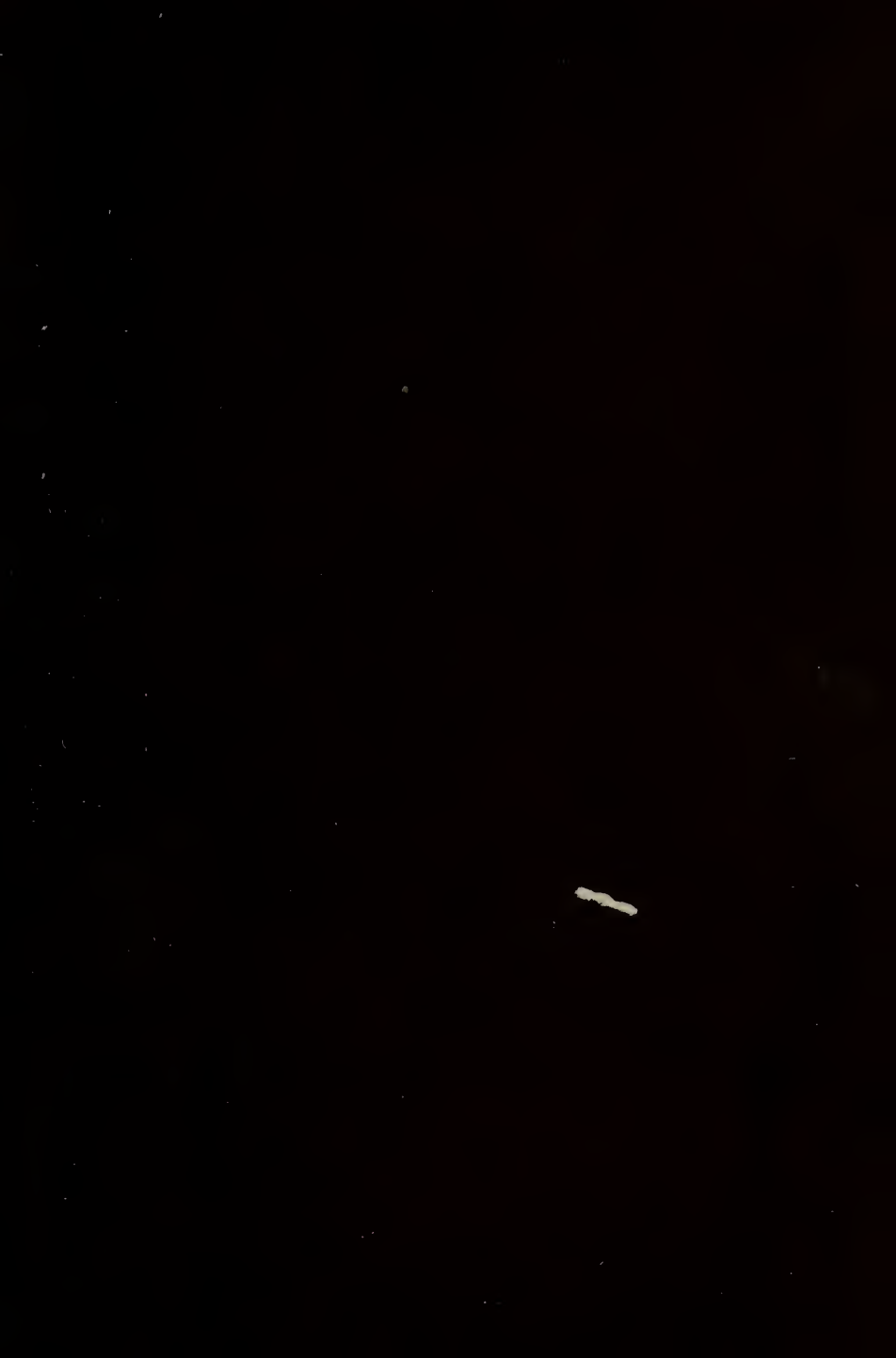
	£	s.	d.
Purchase of Chelsea Pictures, &c.	12	12	0
Balance	103	12	1
	£116	4	1

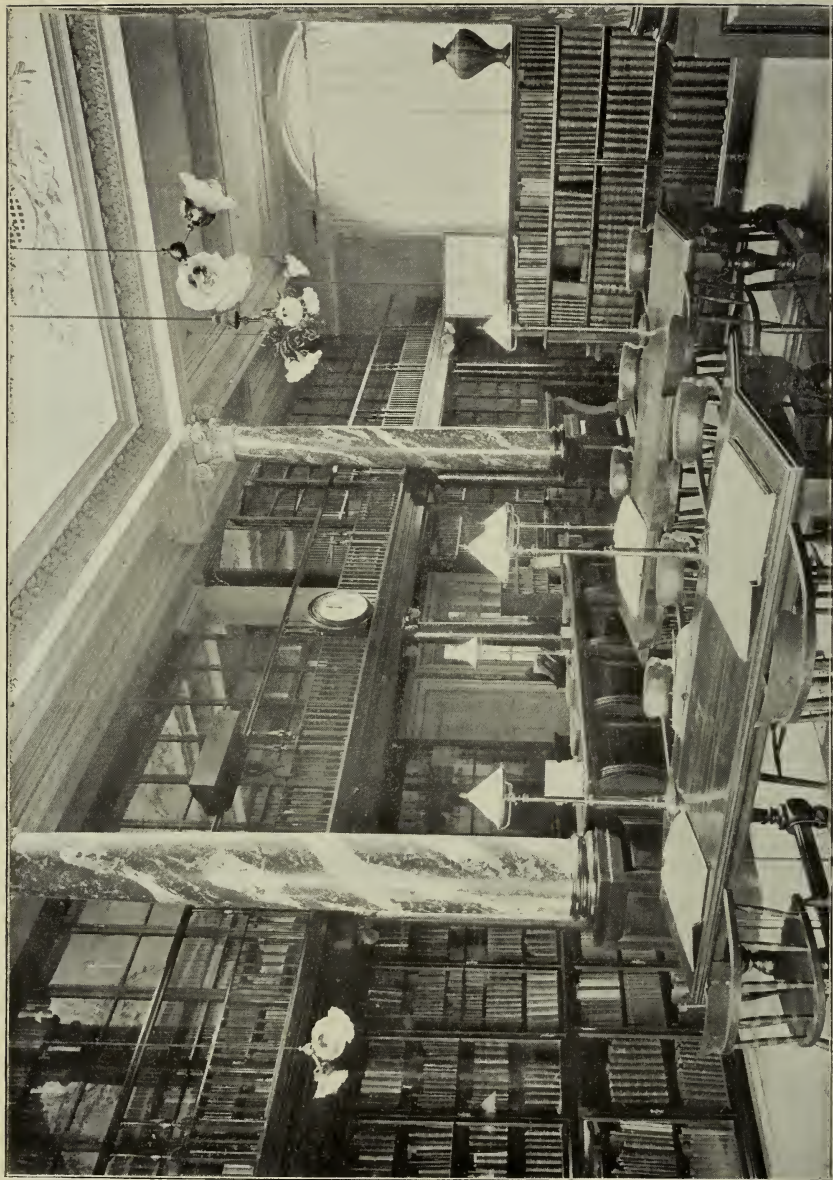
J. HENRY QUINN,

Clerk to the Public Libraries Committee.

Memoranda.

Population of the Borough of Chelsea,	
Census 1901	73,842
Estimated population, 1908	75,049
Area of the Borough	659.6 acres
Rateable Value of the Borough	£936,698
Public Libraries Acts adopted	May, 1887
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall...	Nov., 1887
Librarian appointed	Nov., 1887
The Earl Cadogan, K.G., gave the free- hold of a site for the Library and £350 for the purchase of technical books	Feb., 1888
Charity Commissioners received Deputa- tion organised by the Chelsea Libra- ries Commissioners asking for the es- tablishment of the South-Western Polytechnic, 30th April, 1888, and agree to the establishment of the Polytechnic	10th May, 1888.
The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart, M.P., gave £500 for the pur- chase of books	May, 1888
Memorial stone of the Library laid by the late Countess Cadogan	8th Feb., 1890
Library opened by the Earl Cadogan, K.G.	21st Jan., 1891
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened	4th Dec., 1899
Public Libraries Commissioners' duties transferred to the Boroughs of Chel- sea and Paddington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington	1st April, 1901
Number of Volumes in the Library ...	51,523
Number of Volumes issued 1908-9 ...	239,950
Total number issued since opening ...	3,453,844





A PART OF THE REFERENCE LIBRARY.

Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

Public Libraries and Museums,

FOR THE

Year ending 31st March, 1910.

London :

PITE AND THYNNE, PRINTERS, 278A, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.

MAY, 1910.

Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea.

Committee for Public Libraries and Museums, 1910-11.

COUNCILLOR F. J. WELCH, *Chairman.*

COUNCILLOR CHRISTOPHER HEAD, J.P., *Mayor.*

COUNCILLOR T. C. E. GOFF, J.P., L.C.C.	MR. FOSTER W. PROCTER, J.P.
COUNCILLOR W. E. GORDON.	COUNCILLOR T. J. ROBINSON.
COUNCILLOR E. L. MEINERTZHAGEN, J.P., L.C.C.	MR. C. H. WARREN.
MR. PERCY C. MORRIS.	COUNCILLOR GEORGE WHITE.
COUNCILLOR W. J. MULVEY.	COUNCILLOR MAJOR W. F. WOODS, J.P.

COUNCILLOR H. J. WRIGHT.

Librarian and Clerk to the Committee :

J. HENRY QUINN.

Sub-Librarian : ARMITAGE DENTON.

Assistant : DAVID S. YOUNG.

Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea.

Public Library.

TWENTY-THIRD ANNUAL REPORT, 1909-10.

THE Committee for Public Libraries and Museums, in submitting to the Borough Council their Annual Report for the year ended 31st March, 1910, have much pleasure in reporting a continuance of that steady growth in popular favour and usefulness, which has been a conspicuous feature of the Library for several years past. In all Departments the Public have availed themselves of the opportunities offered by the institution to a greater extent than in any previous year.

TOTAL ISSUE OF BOOKS.

The issue of books during the year reached a total of 250,549 volumes as against 239,950 last year, and 226,836 the year before, which were then record issues. This is an increase of 10,599 volumes on last year.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

The number of volumes issued in this Department was 61,942, being 1,062 more than last year, when the total was 60,880. An analysis of the figures shows increases on the year's work in the classes of Sociology, 272; Languages, 356; Technology, 914; Fine Arts, 75; Literature (Belles lettres), 18; and Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias and works of a general nature), 397; and decreases in the classes of Philosophy, 151; Religion, 70; Science, 278; and History, 471.

The daily average issue was 207 on week-days and 79 on Sundays, as against 201 and 86 last year. The use made of the Reference Library on Sundays, 3 to 9 p.m., is comparatively small, the principal attendance being between the hours of 6 and 9 p.m. ; the number of books issued was 366 less than the previous year.

This Department of the Library continues to be mainly used by students, and the number of books consulted does not convey an adequate idea of the usefulness of the Reference Room, as it is daily used by Chelsea students who bring their own text books, and who only occasionally make a reference to the books of the Library. Apart from this excellent purpose, it is well used for casual reference and by seekers of out-of-the-way information, in which the help of the staff is often sought and given, and the value of the Library to the Public increased thereby. The assistants take care that no reasonable inquiry concerning the books and their contents shall go unanswered. Many of the inquiries are for particulars of costumes, portraits, heraldic distinctions, and other matters in connection with the work of artists in the neighbourhood. The number of volumes taken for class use by teachers and lecturers of the South-Western Polytechnic Institute was 201 as against 238 last year.

The number of volumes in this Department is now 22,205, an increase of 922 during the year. In addition, the books of the Lending Department other than fiction are made available and catalogued in the Reference Department, and this represents a total of 43,780 volumes more or less available for reference.

Three books of small cost were stolen from the open case where books of handy reference are placed for use without application. As these books bore the Library stamps on almost every page, they are unsaleable.

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

The total issue of books in this Department was 133,277, as against 128,047 last year, and 123,823 the year before. This represents an increase of 5,230 volumes following upon an

increase of 4,224 last year. This increase is again spread over all classes of literature, with the exception of the classes Religion and Useful Arts, in which there are small decreases. The Committee are pleased to note that the former falling off in the issue of books from the section for children has been recovered in part, there being an increase of 1,362, as against a decrease last year of 1,075, the total issues being respectively 14,217 and 12,855.

The small but gradual reduction in the percentage of the fiction issues reported from time to time continues. It is now 31·32 per cent. of the whole issues, or 58·88 of the Lending Department, where alone this class of literature is issued. The percentages last year were 31·67 and 59·3, and the previous year 32·68 and 59·8. Upon reference to Table 7 it will be seen that Prose Fiction, apart from Stories for Children, is but 12·36 of the whole stock of books, and this includes works in the French, Italian, German and Spanish languages, which are almost as much used for study purposes as for light reading. This is an exceptional position for a public library to occupy, and the proportion of books of a high standard circulated from the Lending Department will bear favourable comparison with any library of the kind.

The number of borrowers' tickets granted during the year was 3,288, consisting of 2,600 Readers' Tickets, 565 Students' Tickets, and 123 Music Tickets. The number cancelled was 2,985, viz., 2,386 Readers' Tickets, 450 Students' Tickets, and 149 Music Tickets. This leaves 6,138 tickets in force at the date of this report, an increase of 303 over last year. The Students' Tickets include 171 issued to students of the South-Western Polytechnic not residing in Chelsea, as against 140 such tickets last year.

The number of volumes now available for home reading is 30,587, an increase of 1,419 on last year. The volumes worn out and withdrawn from circulation numbered 504, besides 25 destroyed by the officers of the Public Health Department under the precautions taken to prevent the spread of infectious disease and for the assurance of the Public. Of these books

272 were replaced and 257 were cancelled in the stock books. Applications to the number of 770 were made to borrowers and guarantors for the return of books kept much beyond the time allowed. At the annual stocktaking three books (of the value of 4s. 9d.) were unaccounted for.

The arrangement made with the Secretary of the South-Western Polytechnic Literary Society to exhibit a selection of books bearing on the subjects of lectures given before the Society has been continued, the subjects so illustrated being The English Lakes, Municipal Trading, Switzerland and Alpine Climbing, Sir Walter Scott, Trees, Joan of Arc, and Oliver Cromwell. The object in view is that those interested by the lectures may be furnished with opportunities for further study of the subject, if so inclined.

The "Quarterly List" of new additions to this Department has been regularly published during the year and is increasingly appreciated by readers. It serves a useful purpose, not only in informing readers of the books added to the Library from time to time, but in making the Library better known to the Chelsea Public. Special reading lists were included during the year on Botany, Costume, Aerial Navigation, Socialism, Tariff Reform, and The House of Lords.

GENERAL READING ROOM.

The attendance in this room, where the newspapers, magazines, periodicals, and directories are placed, is shown by Table 4, and is also increasing. The figures of the monthly counting give an average daily attendance of 1,434, representing a total attendance for the year on week-days of 441,672. Last year it was 1,306 and 407,550 respectively. The total Sunday attendance was 15,808, or an average of 310 per Sunday, as against 15,891 and 311 last year. There is a slight improvement in the attendance on the Bank Holidays, when the room is open from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., the average attendance being 164 as against 133 last year.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

There is a growing attendance in the Children's Rooms, which was 34,235 as against 32,044 last year, though the

rooms were open seven evenings less. This gives an average of 97 per evening, 5 to 9 p.m., Sundays included. The rooms are crowded during the winter months on every evening in the week except Saturday, when the attendance is always small. Taking the winter six months the average was 141 and in the summer months it was 53.

The number of volumes issued was 55,330 as against 51,023 last year, an increase of 4,307, and giving a daily average issue of 156. This issue is not made up altogether of story books, as might be expected, inasmuch as the "Home Lesson Room" is in constant use by the children for their school preparation work, including "General Knowledge Papers," and in this they have required many works of reference. Members of the staff find the books containing the information desired by the children, who are then left to their own devices in utilizing it. It is interesting to note that these papers are set by the teachers of the various schools without any arrangement being made with the Library, and it would thus appear that the teachers approve of the provision made for the children, and in this way induce them to make good use of it. The questions solved during the year have been of great variety, and the following are selected as typical examples :—

You often hear it said that "Trade follows the flag." What does this mean?

Why is an egg called a perfect food? Name another perfect food.

Who led the English at Hastings, Crecy, Agincourt, Flodden, and Dunbar, and against what nation were we fighting in each case?

What causes water-pipes to burst in frosty weather? What precaution should be taken to prevent it?

Distinguish between indigenous and exotic plants.

What is meant by the "germ" theory of disease?

Why do footmen wear a knot of cord on the shoulder and gentlemen two buttons at the back of their coat?

What is a canon and where are they to be found?

Account for the effervescence which takes place when a bottle of soda-water is opened.

What are the aims of the Royal Academy, the Royal Observatory, the Royal Society, and the Royal Hospital?

Explain the following: "To lose one's head," "To give the cold shoulder," "To draw the long bow," "To be a chip of the old block."

Give the names and authors of any six books you have read. Which book did you like best, and state briefly why?

Explain the following: Jack Tar, Jack-o'-Lantern, Jack Towel, Jack Straw, Jack Plane, Yellow Jack, Steeple Jack, Jack-of-all-Trades, Jack-in-the-Box.

LECTURES TO CHILDREN.

The experimental series of lantern lectures given to the children the previous year having proved successful, the Committee have decided to make such lectures part of the regular work of the Library in the winter months, especially as they can be carried on at little or no cost to the library rate. The lecturers gave their services voluntarily, and Mr. T. G. Cooling was again good enough to help by working the lantern. The following is a list of the lectures during the year, with the names of the lecturers and the attendance at each:—

				ATTENDANCE.
Thursday, Oct. 14th.	—"Conquering the Air," by Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers			179
,, Nov. 4th.	—"A Ramble on Wimbledon Common," by Mr. Cecil T. Davis			181
,, , 25th.	—"Over Some Swiss Mountain Passes," by Mr. W. C. Berwick Sayers			202
,, Dec. 9th.	—"Captain Marryat," by Mr. Cecil T. Davis			204
Wednesday, , 22nd.	—"Scenes in Roman History," by Mr. C. Delisle Burns, M.A.			171
Thursday, , 30th.	—"Selected Pictures," by Mr. T. G. Cooling			161
,, Jan. 13th.	—"The Conway River, from Source to Sea," by Rev. T. Mardy Rees			216
	(Lantern slides lent by London and North Western Railway.)			
,, Jan. 27th.	—"Devon: The Shire of the Sea Kings," by Mr. C. H. Warren			204
	(Lantern slides lent by the Great Western Railway.)			
Tuesday, Feb. 8th.	—"A Peep through a Microscope," by Mr. A. J. Bride			214
Thursday, , 17th.	—"Some Animals and Plants I know," by Mr. W. Percival Westell, F.L.S.			217
,, , 24th.	—"Our Teeth, and How to take care of them," by Mr. Chas. W. Glassington, M.R.C.S., &c.			222



THE SPRING GARDENS, CHELSEA (now LOWNDES SQUARE).
From a Water-Colour Drawing by Schnebbellie, No. 124, Queen Victoria Gallery.

ATTENDANCE.

Thursday, Mar. 3rd.—“A Trip to Dublin and Killarney” ..	223
(Lantern slides lent by London and North Western Railway.)	
„ Mar. 17th.—“What I saw in India,” by Mr. S. K.	
Ratcliffe	172
„ „ 31st.—“A Trip to the Lake District,” by	
Mr. W. G. Fuller	146
(Lantern slides lent by London and North Western Railway.)	

* Arranged by the Chelsea Association.

This gives a total attendance of 2,712 and an average of 194, though the attendance has to be restricted owing to the size of the room, and it is often impossible to admit all who come.

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY AND LONDON UNIVERSITY STUDENTS.

The Committee have received a letter as follows :—

University of London,
South Kensington, S.W.
February 10th, 1910.

To the Chief Librarian,
Public Library, Chelsea.

Dear Sir,

During the last few years much has been done to connect the work of Public Libraries with the work of Education Authorities. It still remains, however, to make a systematic attempt to create and foster a serious and intelligent use of the valuable collections of books now available to the public. The University of London and the Council of the Library Association therefore have every reason to believe that the following suggestions will meet with the sympathy and approval of the Librarians and Library Authorities of Greater London.

The University of London has just established, in connection with its University Extension system, Diplomas in History, in Literature, and in Economics and Social Science. The course of study for a Diploma extends over four Sessions, and its purpose is to put the students in the way of becoming independent workers in the subject. The University has also just formed a Joint Committee of University representatives and representatives of labour organisations for the purposes of promoting the higher education of working people by means of Tutorial Classes. Four such classes have already been arranged for this Term, and it is in the highest degree desirable to offer facilities for access to books for purposes of study to those serious students who are either working for a Diploma or attending a Tutorial Class. At the present time the number of these special students is not large.

On behalf of the University Extension Board and the Library Association we ask whether you would be willing to grant to any student, registered as working for a Diploma or attending a Tutorial Class for working people and vouched for by the University, a Reader's Ticket, irrespective of residence in your district, and without the signature of a

burgess being required as guarantor, if the University were prepared, should it be regarded as indispensable, to make good any damage or loss in the event of non-recovery from the student. It is hoped, however, that the Library Authorities will not consider it necessary for the University to give such a guarantee.

We also venture to submit the following additional suggestions as likely greatly to further the object in view :—

That books, not in the reference library, required by students of Tutorial Classes or attending University Extension Lectures, should, if possible, be placed in the reference library for consultation by such students during the period of such Classes or Lecture Courses. Also that, where desirable, shelf permits should be granted to reference or lending libraries on special application from students, or that, where this cannot be granted some other arrangement be made whereby any books bearing upon any particular subject may be consulted together.

That, wherever practicable, it is highly desirable that public libraries should give facilities for the holding of Tutorial Classes or Courses of University Extension Lectures in the library building ; the provision of study rooms, wherever possible, is strongly recommended.

It should be noted that the University Libraries—both the General Library and the special Goldsmiths' Library of Economic Literature—are accessible to readers who are not members of the University, under certain conditions.

We shall be glad if you will bring this letter before your Committee ; and we trust the recommendations made therein will have your own approval and support.

We are, dear Sir,

Yours very faithfully,

R. D. ROBERTS.

For the Board for the Extension of
University Teaching, University
of London.

L. STANLEY JAST.

For the Library Association.

After consideration by the Committee the following reply was sent :—

30th March, 1910.

R. D. Roberts, Esq., M.A., D.Sc.,

Registrar of Board for Extension of University Teaching,
University of London.

Dear Sir,

I am directed by the Committee for this Library to acknowledge the receipt of your circular letter of the 10th ulto., with reference to the use of this Library by students.

At present the students of two training colleges for teachers in Chelsea, all students of the adjoining South-Western Polytechnic Institute, and all teachers engaged in the schools in the district, are allowed to borrow

from this Library whether resident in Chelsea or not. Besides these a large number of students of the South Kensington and other colleges reside in this borough and use the Lending Library. While the Committee have every sympathy with the request for readers' tickets contained in the letter, they regret that owing to the great and growing increase in the work of the Library of late years their limited means do not allow any further extension of the privileges of the Lending Library.

With reference to the further proposals contained in the letter, I am directed to state that the experiment of reserving books recommended in the University Extension lectures for reference only, during the period of such lectures, has been often tried here and proved a failure, as the books so reserved were not used. We have always taken care that every book recommended by University Extension lecturers in the district is in the Library.

Our arrangements do not permit of students going to the shelves, but they are such that no difficulty whatever will be experienced by any person in consulting as many books as he wishes at any time in the Reference Department, which is open to all comers seven days a week. A large part of the stock of books can be seen without formality. Our Reference Reading Room will be found a most comfortable place for study, and is mainly used for the purpose, and your students will be welcomed and afforded every facility.

We cannot give facilities in this Institution for classes and lectures, as we have no accommodation, and it would be overlapping the work already better done by the adjoining South-Western Polytechnic Institute, which was originated by the Commissioners for the Chelsea Public Libraries and with which we naturally co-operate.

I am,

Yours faithfully,

(Signed) J. HENRY QUINN.

LOCAL COLLECTION AND GIFTS.

No important additions have been made to the local collection by purchase during the past year. The opportunities for supplementing the collection are necessarily less frequent, owing to the difficulty of discovering anything of a printed nature bearing upon the past history of the Borough which the Library does not already possess.

The Mayor, Councillor Christopher Head, J.P., presented a framed signed proof engraving, in mezzotint, by Richard Josey, of Whistler's "Portrait of his Mother," now in the Luxembourg Gallery, Paris.

In accordance with custom, and by request, Councillor the Rev. H. R. Gamble, M.A., presented a photograph of himself as Mayor of Chelsea, 1908-9.

The Committee purchased from the Chelsea Commemoration Fund two water-colour drawings copied from originals in the British Museum ; one a view in the King's-road in 1820, and the other a picture of Turner's House, 1852. These were reproduced in the last report.

Messrs. Chenil & Co., of King's-road, presented two charcoal drawings of the Chelsea Embankment and Albert and Chelsea Bridges, by Joseph O'Brien.

Other additions were a water-colour drawing of the Black Lion Inn, Church-street ; four pencil drawings of Cremorne-gardens, about 1850 ; a lithographic portrait of the Rev. J. C. Miller, of Park Chapel, 1846 ; a lithograph of Chelsea from Cheyne-walk, by J. C. Burgess, about 1830 ; and an etching by Charles J. Watson, of Chelsea Reach, 1879.

Mrs. R. de Benitua, of Fernshaw-mansions, presented six miniature portraits of members of her family, of the period 1820-40.

Major W. F. Woods, J.P., has lent a fine mounted head of a Canadian moose for the decoration of the Reference Library staircase.

The Committee lent some of the portraits and drawings from the local collection to the Whitechapel Art Gallery, for the winter exhibition there.

Among the gifts of books received, Mr. Percy E. Coombe, of Elm Park-road, gave 80 useful volumes, principally scientific. The Rt. Hon. Sir Chas. W. Dilke, Bart., M.P., continues to show his interest in the Library by regular gifts of books, and Mr. Percy C. Morris has again sent useful and attractive selections of books for the Children's Room. Miss A. M. Cust presented a number of volumes to complete the library sets of the Egypt Exploration Fund Publications, the Journal of Hellenic Studies, and the Annals of the British School at Athens. Mr. E. J. Horniman entered the name of the Library and paid a "life" subscription for it to the Archæological and Topographical Society.

The following is a list of the other donors of books during the year, and the Committee have conveyed their thanks to each of them :—

Central Association of Accountants ; Society of Incorporated Accountants and Auditors ; Apprenticeship and Skilled Employment Association ; Mrs. W. T. Arnold ; Miss A. Ashbee ; Agent-General for Australia ; Mrs. R. de Benitua ; Birmingham Free Libraries Committee ; Bureau of Provincial Information, British Columbia ; British Guiana Government ; British Museum Trustees ; Mr. Bramwell Booth ; Brooklyn Institute ; Buddhist Society of Great Britain and Ireland ; Dr. E. A. Wallis Budge ; Canadian Government ; Agent-General for the Cape of Good Hope ; Dr. Andrew Carnegie ; Mr. George Carter ; Mr. W. H. Carter ; Mr. H. N. Casson ; Messrs. Chenil & Co. ; Dr. S. W. Chippingdale ; Christian Science Literature Distributing Committee ; City and Guilds of London Institute ; Mr. Percy E. Coombe ; Co-operative Union, Ltd. ; Lord Courtney of Penwith ; Lady Courtney ; Mrs. Stewart Cox ; Cremation Society of London ; Curator of the Chelsea Physic Garden ; Miss A. M. Cust ; Miss Eleanor Davies ; Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P. ; Society of Engineers ; Mr. J. M. Evans ; Miss H. B. Gibbs ; Mr. A. J. Gray, K.C. ; Grocery Exhibition ; Mr. Wm. Hall ; Hammersmith Borough Council ; Messrs. Hampton ; Harvard College, U.S.A. ; Mr. N. Harden ; Mr. E. A. Harman ; Mr. Walter Hill ; Mr. Daniel Hipwell ; Mr. Thomas Holland ; Homeland Association, Ltd. ; Mr. Henry V. Hopwood ; Miss J. B. Horner ; Mr. E. J. Horniman ; Italian Hospital in London ; Mr. F. G. Jannaway ; Sir E. Durning-Lawrence, Bart. ; Mr. Joseph Lewin ; London Chamber of Commerce ; London County Council ; London Directory Co. ; London Liberal Federation ; London Publicity Co. ; Mr. A. S. Long ; Mr. Sidney J. Low ; Mr. C. W. Marshall ; Miss Mayo ; Metropolitan Asylums Board ; Rev. F. Minton ; Messrs. C. Mitchell & Co. ; Mocatta Library Committee ; Mr. Percy C. Morris ; Mr. Felix Moscheles ; National Union of Teachers ; Executors of Mr. James Neale ; Newcastle Public Libraries Committee ; Miss M. Newcombe ; High Commissioner for New

Zealand; North-Eastern Railway Co.; Dr. Louis C. Parkes; Parliamentary Association for the Abolition of Vivisection; Messrs. J. and J. Paton; Peace Society; Peace Union; Messrs. Pitman & Sons, Ltd.; Professor G. L. Raymond; Rickmansworth Urban District Council; Royal Colonial Institute; Mr. Martin Shaw; Singer Sewing Machine Co.; Smithsonian Institution; Mr. W. E. Snell; Mr. L. Spitzer; Mr. W. N. Stedman; Mr. Wm. Stigand; Rev. James Strachan; Theosophical Society; Tonic Sol-Fa College; Dr. R. H. Tribe; Trinity College of Music, London; University Correspondence College; U.S. Bureau of Education; Mrs. E. Webb; Mr. Francis C. Welles; Professor J. Westlake, K.C.; Rev. F. W. A. Wilkinson; Mr. Ernest E. Williams; Mr. F. Wood; Major W. F. Woods, J.P.; Zoological Society of London.

NEWSPAPERS, &C., PRESENTED.

The following newspapers, periodicals, &c., were presented as issued by the respective publishers or proprietors:—

Accountant, Agricultural Economist, Amateur Photographer, Anglo-Russian, Animal World, Animals' Friend, Anti-Suffrage Review, Anti-Vivisection Review, Associated Accountants' Journal, Athenæum, Band of Mercy, Bird Notes and News, Britain's Opium-Harvest, British Architect, Broad Arrow, Buddhist Review, Canada, Canadian Gazette, Century Path, Charity Organisation Review, Chelsea Parish Magazine, Chelsea Temperance Companion, Christian, Christian Globe, Christian Science Journal, Christian Science Sentinel, Church Family Newspaper, Church Gazette, Civil Service Aspirant, Civil Service Hints, Civil Service Weekly, Civilian, Clerks of Works' Association Journal, Concord, Conservative and Unionist, Cook's Excursionist, Cowkeeper and Dairyman's Journal, Decorator, Draper's Record, Educational Record, Educational Review, Educational Times, Englishwoman's Review, Epicure, Estates Gazette, Ethics, Food and Cookery, Free Sunday Advocate, Friendly Leaves, Fulham Chronicle, Fulham Times, Garden City, Great Western Railway Magazine, Health Record, Herald of Health, Herald of the Cross, Herald of the Golden Age, Humanitarian, Incorporated Accountants' Journal, Insurance Agent, Insurance Record, Jewish Intelligence, Journal of Decorative Art, Kensington News, Liberal Monthly, Licensing World, Lifeboat, Literary Guide, Local Government Chronicle, Local Government Journal, Local Government Officer, London Argus, London Crusader, London County Council Gazette, L.C.C. Workmen's Trains &c. Guide, London Temperance Times, Lord's Day, Machinery Market, Mechanical World, Middlesex County Times, Modern Society, Morley College Magazine, Motor Traction, Musical Herald, Natal Mercury,



THE OLD CHELSEA BUN HOUSE.

From a Water-Colour Drawing by T. H. Shepherd, No. 118, Queen Victoria Gallery.

Nation in Arms, National Service Journal, New Church Magazine, News of the World, Notes and Queries, Oddfellows' Magazine, Our Waifs and Strays, Parents' Review, Philanthropist, Phonetic Journal, Phrenologist, Pioneer of Wisdom, Plumber and Decorator, Poor Law Officers' Journal, Positivist Review, Practical Engineer, Printers' Register, Railway Review, Return of Deaths of Seamen, Rural World, Socialist, Standard, State Correspondent, Temperance Chronicle, Theosophical Quarterly, Timber Trades Journal, To and Fro, Tongues of Fire, Trade Protection Journal, Standard of Empire, Travel, University Correspondent, Vaccination Inquirer, Vegetarian Messenger, Votes for Women, Vulcan, Wheatsheaf, Women's Industrial News, Zoophilist.

Besides the above, the following persons presented the periodicals named :—

Mr. George Carter: Journal of the Royal Horticultural Society. Mr. E. Chambers: Bible in the World, Bible Society Gleanings. Chelsea Temperance Society: Alliance News, Temperance Record. Sir Charles W. Dilke: Journal of the Society of Arts. Mrs. Elizabeth Ellis: The English Churchman. Mr. L. Moon: Emmanuel, Chelsea, Parochial Magazine. Mr. James Stevenson, Galt, Ontario (formerly of Chelsea): Various Canadian Newspapers. Professor Westlake, K.C.: Economic Journal, Journal of Hellenic Studies.

The Chelsea Borough Council and the London County Council have sent their Minutes of Proceedings as issued, and the railway companies supplied their time-tables. Annual reports have been received from a number of public libraries.

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 1, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Days open—279.		SUNDAYS. Days Open—51.	
	Total vols. issued.	Daily average.	Total vols. issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy.....	614	2	85	2
Religion	1710	6	126	2
Sociology	5602	20	314	6
Language	4430	16	400	8
Science	4245	15	174	4
Useful Arts	4884	17	213	4
Fine Arts	5375	19	322	6
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	5776	21	607	12
History, Biography, Travels	17523	63	1216	24
Miscellaneous (Encyclopædias, &c.)	7742	28	584	11
TOTAL	57901	207	4041	79

LENDING DEPARTMENT.

TABLE 2, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED,
WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	Days open—279.	
	Total volumes issued.	Daily average.
Philosophy	1303	5
Religion	1865	6
Sociology	2511	9
Language	495	2
Science	3048	11
Useful Arts	2749	11
Fine Arts	5081	18
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	7558	27
History, Biography, Travels.....	14202	50
Books for Children	14217	51
Prose Fiction	78481	281
Miscellaneous (Magazines, &c.) ..	1767	6
TOTAL	133277	477

Number of Borrowers' Tickets in force—6138.

CHILDREN'S ROOMS.

TABLE 3, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED, WITH THEIR CLASSIFICATION.

CLASS.	WEEK DAYS. Open 302 evenings.	SUNDAYS. Open 51 evenings.
	Total volumes issued.	Total volumes issued.
Philosophy	206	6
Religion	55	26
Sociology	7870	842
Language	1958	68
Science	2386	629
Useful Arts	349	37
Fine Arts	1009	376
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)..	2692	805
History, Biography, Travels	3805	1136
Stories	9492	4314
Magazines and Periodicals (in vols.)	14482	2787
TOTAL	44304	11026

READING ROOMS.

TABLE 4, SHOWING THE NUMBER OF PERSONS ENTERING THE ROOMS ON THE DAYS NAMED.

1909.				Total.
Saturday, April 24th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	..	..	1287
Monday, May 24th	( " " )	..	..	1287
Tuesday, June 22nd	( " " )	..	..	1269
Wednesday, July 28th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	..	..	842
Thursday, August 26th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	..	..	1454
Friday, September 24th	( " " )	..	..	1742
Saturday, October 23rd	( " " )	..	..	1444
Monday, November 15th	( " " )	..	..	1760
Tuesday, December 14th	( " " )	..	..	1481
1910.				
Wednesday, January 19th	(9 to 11 a.m., 5 to 10 p.m.)	..	..	1211
Thursday, February 17th	(9 a.m. to 10 p.m.)	..	..	1831
Friday, March 18th	( " " )	..	..	1603
BANK HOLIDAYS.				
Easter Monday, April 12th	(9 a.m. to 4 p.m.)	..	..	190
Whit Monday, May 31st	( " " )	..	..	123
First Monday in August, August 2nd	( " " )	..	..	176
Easter Monday, March 28th	( " " )	..	..	166

SUNDAY ATTENDANCE.

The Reading Rooms were open on 51 Sundays, the total attendance being 15808, giving an average of 310 per Sunday (3 to 9 p.m.).

TABLE 5, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION AND NUMBER OF VOLUMES ISSUED IN ALL DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference Library.	Lending Library.	Children's Rooms.	Total.	Per cent.
Philosophy.....	699	1303	212	2214	·88
Religion	1836	1865	81	3782	1·50
Sociology	5916	2511	8712	17139	6·84
Language	4830	495	2026	7351	2·93
Science	4419	3048	3015	10482	4·18
Useful Arts	5097	2749	386	8232	3·28
Fine Arts	5697	5081	1385	12163	4·85
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays)	6383	7588	3497	17438	6·99
History, Biography, Travels	18739	14202	4941	37882	15·12
Stories for Children.....	—	14217	13806	28023	11·19
Prose Fiction	—	78481	—	78481	31·32
Miscellaneous (Magazines, Encyclopædias, &c.) ..	8326	1767	17269	27362	10·92
TOTAL.....	61942	133277	55330	250549	100·00

TABLE 6, SHOWING THE TOTAL ANNUAL ISSUE OF VOLUMES SINCE THE OPENING OF THE LIBRARY.

Jan. 23rd—May, 1891	..	..	..	45,905
1891-92	..	..	..	157,693
1892-93	..	..	..	168,623
1893-94	..	..	..	179,456
1894-95	..	..	..	180,016
1895-96	..	..	..	170,834
1896-97	..	..	..	171,298
1897-98	..	..	..	168,853
1898-99	..	..	..	171,585
1899-1900	..	..	..	170,522
1900-1 (June 1st—March 31st)	..	..	..	159,892
1901-2	..	..	..	184,656
1902-3	..	..	..	211,611
1903-4	..	..	..	216,590
1904-5	..	..	..	198,257
1905-6	..	..	..	208,188
1906-7	..	..	..	223,079
1907-8	..	..	..	226,836
1908-9	..	..	..	239,950
1909-10	..	..	..	250,549
TOTAL	..	..	..	<u>3,704,393</u>

TABLE 7, SHOWING THE CLASSIFICATION OF THE STOCK OF BOOKS BY DEPARTMENTS.

CLASS.	Reference	Lending.	Children's Rooms.	Total volumes in Library, 31st Mar., 1910.	Per cent.	Additions to the stock during the year.
Philosophy	254	696	3	953	1·77	70
Religion	1233	1809	29	3071	5·69	109
Sociology	2160	1960	10	4130	7·66	198
Language	253	304	19	576	1·07	14
Science	1598	1554	89	3241	6·02	255
Useful Arts	1594	1198	19	2811	5·22	123
Fine Arts	2059	1694	8	3761	6·97	221
Literature (Poetry, Drama, Essays) ..	1912	3276	72	5260	9·76	177
History, Biography, Travels	7799	8255	163	16217	30·09	825
Stories for Children ..	—	2349	569	2918	5·41	94
Prose Fiction	—	6664	—	6664	12·36	194
Miscellaneous (Ency- clopædias, Maga- zines, &c.)	3343	828	130	4301	7·98	100
TOTAL	22205	30587	1111	53903	100·00	2380

FINANCIAL

Sums received and expended

	RECEIPTS.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Balance from 1908-9	549	7	0½			
From Rates (allocated to Public Libraries Account)		3615	7	4			
Fines and Penalties	66	17	4			
Other Receipts :—							
Sale of Catalogues, Tickets, &c.	43	5	8			
Bank Interest	13	5	0			
					123	8	0

£4288 2 4½

CHELSEA COMMEMORA
(including Bequest of Mrs.

						£	s.	d.
Balance from 1908-9	....	103	12	1				
Bank Interest	....	2	0	11				
		£105	13	0				

STATEMENT.

under the Public Libraries Acts.

	EXPENDITURE.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Buildings, Repairs and Maintenance :—							
Building and furniture repairs and improve- ments	154	17	8			
Cleaning, fuel and lighting	215	15	3½			
Rates and taxes, insurance	46	17	1			
					417	10	0½
Books, Newspapers, &c.	779	9	7			
Bookbinding and repairs	93	1	11			
Printing catalogues	14	19	0			
					887	10	6
Salaries of Officers and Assistants				1318	10	2
Establishment Charges, viz. :—							
Stationery and printing	59	1	4			
Carriage, postage, &c.	15	3	4½			
Uniform clothing	9	3	0			
					83	7	8½
Annual Payment to Paddington Borough Council under Financial Adjustment Scheme				300	0	0
Repayment of Loans and Interest on Loans :—							
Principal repaid :—							
To the London County Council	398	16	8			
Interest, including Income Tax :—							
To the London County Council	181	4	4			
					580	1	0
Total Expenditure				3586	19	5
Balance at the end of the year				701	2	11½
					£4288	2	4½

TION (1837-1897) FUND

Henrietta Yates, £100).

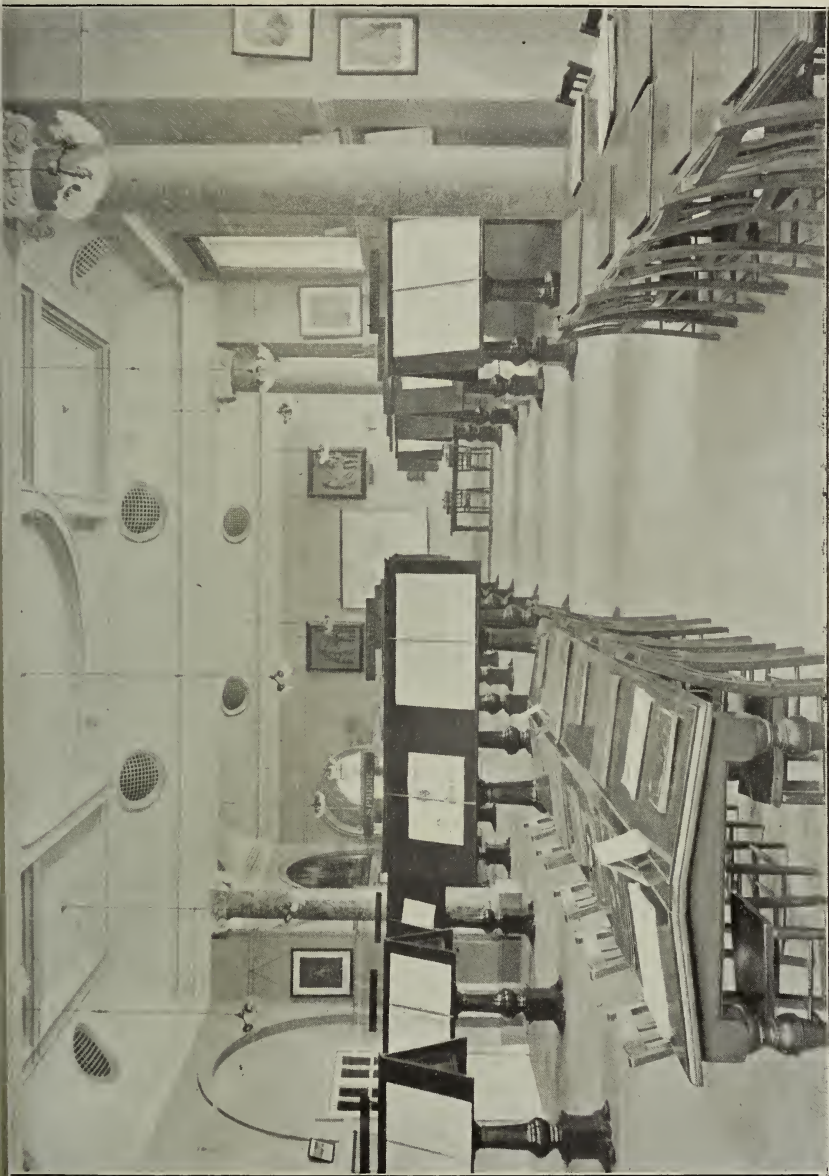
	£	s.	d.
Purchase of Chelsea Pictures	....	1	3 5
Balance	....	104	9 7
		£105	13 0

J. HENRY QUINN,

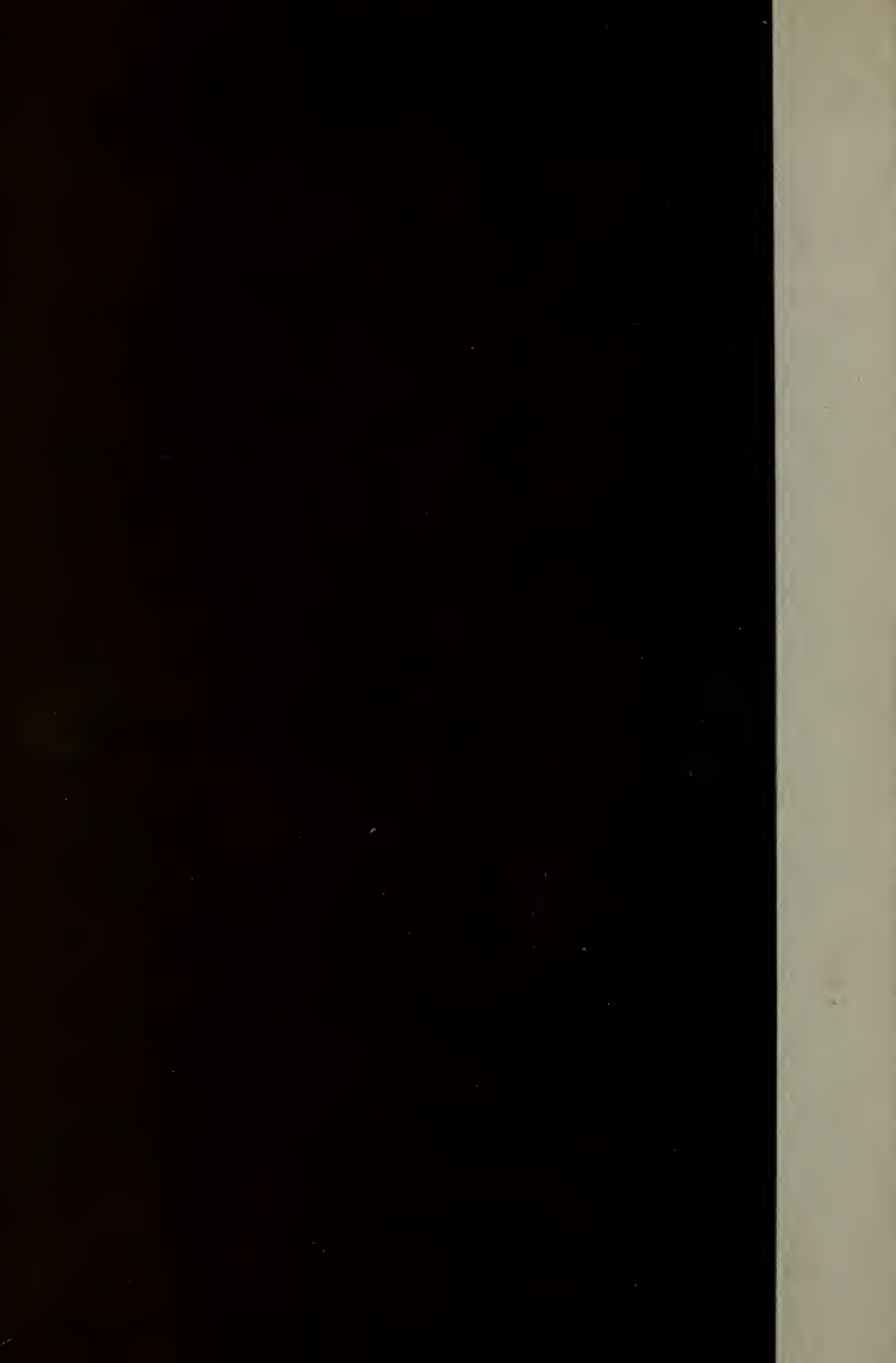
Clerk to the Public Libraries Committee.

Memoranda.

Population of the Borough of Chelsea, Census 1901	73,842
Estimated population, 1908	75,249
Area of the Borough	659.6 acres
Rateable Value of the Borough	£934,617
Public Libraries Acts adopted	May, 1887
First Commissioners for Public Libraries appointed	June, 1887
Temporary Library opened in Town Hall...	Nov., 1887
Librarian appointed	Nov., 1887
The Earl Cadogan, K.G., gave the free- hold of a site for the Library and £350 for the purchase of technical books	Feb., 1888
Charity Commissioners received Deputa- tion organised by the Chelsea Libra- ries Commissioners asking for the establishment of the South-Western Polytechnic, 30th April, 1888, and agreed to the establishment of the Polytechnic	10th May, 1888
The Rt. Hon. Sir Charles W. Dilke, Bart., M.P., gave £500 for the purchase of books	May, 1888
Memorial stone of the Library laid by the late Countess Cadogan	8th Feb., 1890
Library opened by the Earl Cadogan, K.G.	21st Jan., 1891
Queen Victoria Gallery of Chelsea Prints and Drawings opened	4th Dec., 1899
Public Libraries Commissioners' duties transferred to the Boroughs of Chel- sea and Paddington, and the Kensal Town Branch Library transferred to Paddington	1st April, 1901
Bequest by Mrs. Henrietta Yates, of Penshurst, of £100 and art objects	Sept., 1904
Number of Volumes in the Library ...	53,903
Number of Volumes issued 1909-10 ...	250,549
Total number issued since opening ...	3,704,393



THE NEWSPAPER SECTION OF THE GENERAL READING ROOM.





Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

COMMITTEE

FOR

Public Libraries and Museums,

FOR THE

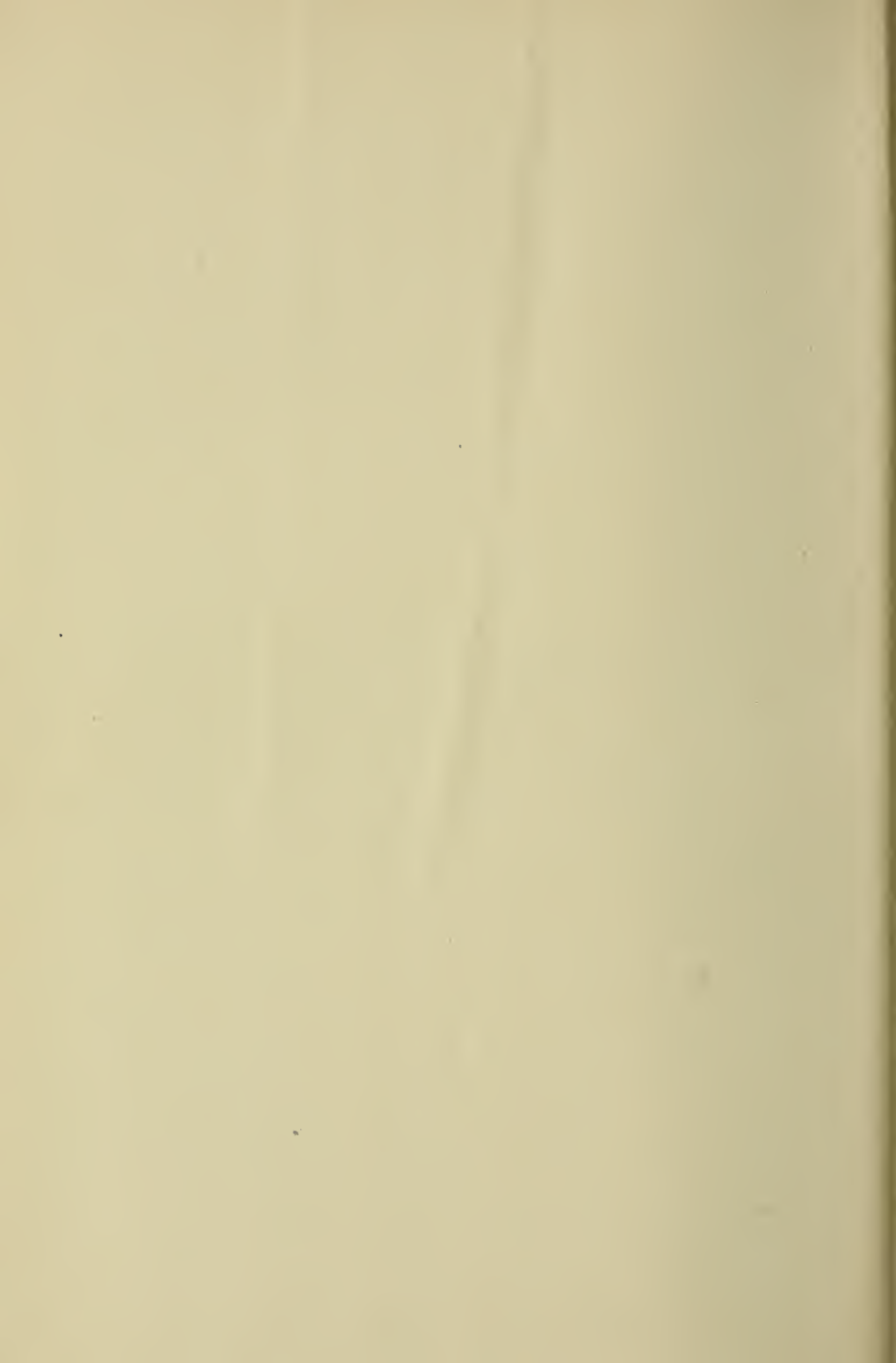
Year ending 31st March, 1910.

London :

PITE AND THYNNE, PRINTERS, 278A, KING'S ROAD, CHELSEA, S.W.

May, 1910.

Gifts of Books, Prints, or Works of Art will be received or sent for by the Librarian, Public Library, Manresa Road, S.W. Bequests to be made to the Council of the Metropolitan Borough of Chelsea for the purposes of the Public Libraries and Museums.







UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS-URBANA



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